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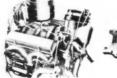
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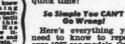
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DON GARLITS raises his hand in readiness for another crack at victory. One of drag racing's most controversial figures, speed merchant Garlits is spotlighted in CAR CRAFT'S revealing personality profile (see P. 14). For all the facts on names in the news, be sure to get every issue of bigger-than-ever CAR CRAFT!

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COVER

George Smaldone's beautiful '33 Ford Coupe has the main spot on this month's cover. Also seen is John Geraghty putting the finishing touches on a blower installation. On the right are the new Lucas lamps.

— Anscochromes by Eddy, D'Olivo, Creits





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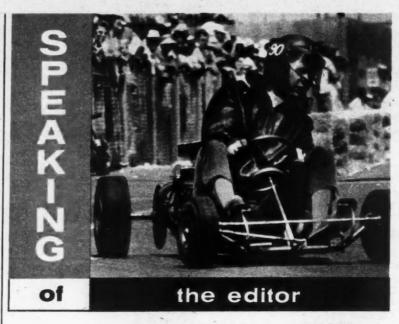
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Quarter Midget Champion, John Kuramete, 1958 Phoenix "AA" Winner, says "Never get such a bite from any other tire."



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ALTHOUGH THIS MONTHLY column A is entitled Speaking Of The Editor, I would like to transpose it this month to read "Speaking Of Faye Pierson." On page 30 you will find a comprehensive report of the National Go Cart Championship races recently staged by the Go Kart Club of America. You will even find the name and photograph of Faye Pierson concerning her official achievement for the huge three day title meet. She officially placed second in the small A-class racing division — but unofficially, she stole the meet! No one paid much attention to her presence in the pits during early morning qualifying. It was obvious that she was a participant, but a slight build of a girl, one of two female entries out of over one hundred competi-tors . . . and, so what? That's about the way things went 'til her husband, Tom Pierson, proprietor of Bug Engineering, shoved her to a start for a crack at qualifying. Up 'til this time, Jim Yamane, local carting ace and holder of the track record of the A-class division on the popular Go-Kart Manufacturing's asphalt road race course, had been dicing around the track as if on a wire nipping tenths of seconds from his previous one lap record. That was until the lissome Faye Pierson flashed by the electric timing clocks for her one lap tour of 42.2 - a full second faster than any previous A-class mark. At the end of the day Faye had not only established a new record, and undoubtedly a long standing one for her division, but had also qualified her car faster than many of the more powerful, B-class racers. Mrs. Pierson was no longer just an entry - she was a threat!

Early next morning Fave was on the pole ready for her first heat race, one of three under the International Moto Cross racing and scoring system that was employed by the GKCA for this year's first championship event. Ace handler, Jim Yamane, was directly across from her in the outside row. As the cars assembled for their running start, spectators, officials and press alike were fevered to a high pitch to see the outcome of this boy-meets-girl contest. With a signal of the starter's flag, Faye jumped into the lead with Yamane pulling into the

bidding second slot. For the next fifteen laps Faye Pierson threw her small car into corners at full throttle speeds, darting down straightaways ahead of the twenty-car field like a veteran. Yamane made his bid on the sixteenth lap just edging out Faye before a tight corner. The remaining four laps saw driving skill like that never before displayed. The two drivers toured the 4/10ths of a mile course like they were the 4/10ths of a mile course like they were the 4/10ths of a mile course like they were upon a tandem cart. Faye never once allowed Yamane to get more than two feet out of her sights. As the two cart pilots dove into the last corner and came out charging for the finish line—Faye pulled along side of Yamane for a last burst of speed. It proved too much pressure for Yamane's potent McCulloch engine for at this moment the consistent the property of the property of the property of the course of the consistent of the property of the prop this moment the crankshaft broke and Fave swept beneath the checkered flag - first!

For their second meeting of the day's three races, Yamane had made a quick engine swap and was again ready to do battle. This second twenty lapper paid off in misfortune for Faye. After leading the field several laps, her car threw a drive chain which eliminated her chances of a first score. Yamane went on to win in fine

The third and last race witnessed Faye's The third and last race witnessed Fayes most determined bid for a national title. After starting dead last, she moved thru some seventeen cars to take up third position within a few short laps. While setting up and attempting to overtake the second place man misfortune again dealt a disastruct blow. The cars carshed whenly place man mistortune again deatt a disas-trous blow. The cars crashed, wheels locked, and both cars came to a dead engine halt. Several positions were lost while the cars were being untangled. Once back in the race it was the old story of not back in the race it was the out story of not enough time. Faye was able to gain her third place position back before the check-ered flag fell—but it wasn't good enough. There will be many bench racing sessions

concerning this first national carting event—the winners—the champions. But the biggest conversation piece will concern a girl who put on such an uncanny display of driving that she won the hearts of spec-tators and fellow contestants alike in a truly championship style.

- Dick Day CAR CRAFT

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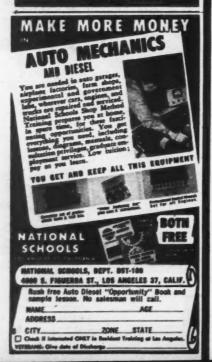


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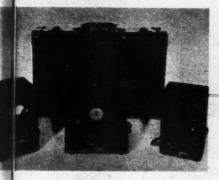
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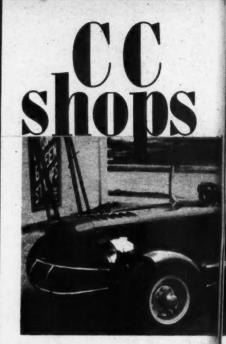




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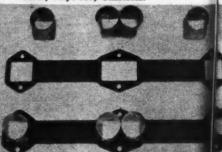
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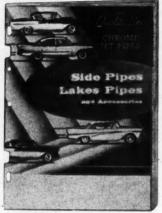
HEADER KITS

Build this header kit for your car. Complete instructions, parts. Write for illustrated brochure, prices. San Diego Steel Products, Dept.-cc, 4955 Weks St., San Diego, Calif.

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CHEVY ISSUE INSPIRATION

Dear Sir:

After being inspired by the many fine articles in your magazine I decided to attempt a custom of my own. I got my ideas mainly from your May '57 issue which you devoted to Chevrolets. I am including a picture of my '49 coupe which I am quite proud of because I did all the work on it myself except the painting.

It has been nosed and decked with a short chrome bull-nose half way down the hood. The original taillights were removed and 54 Pontiac taillights are mounted just below the deck lid. I removed the fender trim and stone guards from the back fenders and I lowered the back end two



inches. The engine is stock and the interior is also stock except for custom red carpeting and white padded sun visors. The car has five coats of jet black lacquer.

> - Dick Perry. Harvard, Ill.

One of our aims is to provide inspiration and ideas for our readers to use in customizing their cars. We are glad to see you took advantage of it.-Ed.

PULCHRITUDINOUS PROCLAMATIONS

The girl who was in your magazine gave me the uplift and courage to face a new day against this hard cruel world.

Now there is only one thing left to do: end it all. Of course, I could write to you and ask you to put the girl back in your magazine, but I won't do that.

> - Scott Wheeler Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Sir:

I am very familiar with your great mag, "Car Craft". While reading the new issue of Car Craft I came upon your column "Letters" and the articles about the girls that you feature or did feature on the back cover. Around here that was the "It" which made the difference between your mag and the others. I have all of them, I believe, and was shocked to see this extra gone. I have benefited from your mag a great deal, from help and tips for my custom to many hours of pure enjoyment.

- Herbert Poelvoorde Corfu, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Just received my latest issue of Car Craft in its new King size and think it is great. However, I have just one question. "Wha' happened to the 'cool chassis' that always appeared on the rear cover?" I noticed that

other readers were disturbed about this also, so I thought I'd register my complaint. I have never liked the "midgets", but I guess those sawedoff racers are here to stay, so I'll just grin and bear it. But . . . girls are here to stay, too, so why not some more coverage on everybody's favorite subject - Girls?

- John Forster Dallas, Texas

Dear Sir:

... I know you're publishing a car magazine, but even the most carminded person enjoys a sharp girl, unless, of course, he's 'sick' in the head or a female.

> -Curly Waldobora, Maine

Dear Sir:

We want the GIRLS.

- Bill Molinelli College Pt., N.Y.

Dear Sir:

In the Letter section of your latest mag, I noticed there are two other readers who feel the same as I: Bring Back The Girls:

> - James Hampton Portland, Oregon

Well now, apparently this question seems to be one sided in favor of the female gender. Be of stout heart and stiff upper lip, gang, we're thinking seriously about your well being and happiness. Think you can wait?

\$100 QUESTION

Dear Sir:

In reading your August issue of "Car Craft," I came across the article Build A Custom for \$100. I was very much interested in the article. But I have just one question. It seems to me that the car has been nosed and decked. Then going farther in the article I found the price list. This didn't include the nosing and decking of the car. There is one possibility that I can see, but I don't think you or Barris Kustom would stoop to it. That is covering up the holes of the ornaments by the scallops.

I would like an answer pertaining to this question, as I am very much interested in the forthcoming article.

- Steven Rohrudsey Glen Falls, N.Y.

You're right, Steve, we wouldn't stoop to that. Apparently you haven't read the article thoroughly. You'll find on page 16 in the lower left corner a reversed panel explaining that the '57 Ford we used had been nesed and decked by its previous owner. We did not perform this operation, and it would be quite ridiculous If we had re-mounted the emblems. This isn't an afterthought on our part, as you'll see on page 16 we mention the fact that it was nosed and decked before our work and it is not included in the price list.

CHEVY FROM CLINTON

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a picture of my slightly modified '54 Chevy which I hope will rate a place in your great magazine. It is a four door, 210. Modifications



are as follows: nosed and decked, louvered hood, grille was changed by adding extra bars, 10 to be exact. It is lowered two inches in front, three in rear. Taillights have been reworked by using stock hoods and setting three small round clearance lights inside. Headlight rims are painted to give frenched appearance as are taillights. Engine is slightly warmed over Chevy 261 truck which kicks it along at a good clip. Other extras include full length lakes plugs, Dodge Lancer hubcaps, and jet black paint job.

> -Ronald Smith. Clinton, Oklahoma

Your Chevy looks real sharp, Ron.-Ed.



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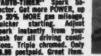














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controversial

LESS THAN TWO Years ago a short, lean-faced, Florida hot rodder named Don Garlits was fighting unrecognized battles for local drag strip honors. Today, his name is synonmous with the words "dragracing" and is as famous as Southern politics and just about as controversial.

Garlits skyrocketed into this precarious national prominence on the concrete Brooksville, Florida drag strip. There, on a warm, sunny Sunday, the Tampa hot rodder whose major ambition is to go fast, sat low in a Chrysler-powered, needlenosed dragster.

Helmeted, goggled and nervous, Garlits' biggest worry was the starter's flag. In front, the starter raised his arm, waggled the flag several times, then, in a blur of green, dropped it to his side.

The response was instantaneous: the engine quickly revved to a high-pitched scream, rear wheels spun, burnt rubber, then stuck and pushed the car from the line in a blast of odorous exhaust. It was a sequence of events that had become the Garlits trade-mark.

For a second the car fishtailed, then straightened. Garlits, knuckles white around the half-wheel, kept the car arrowstraight as it diminished down the center of the strip. There was a high-speed, fastmoving blur as the dragster flashed past the timing lights. Immediately the announcer's voice, tense and excited, barked over the loudspeaker, "He's broken 175."

"KING OF THE DRAGS"

nine seconds changed Don Garlits from a small town hot rodder into one of the fastest and most controversial figures in U. S. drag racing

By Bob Behme





"KING OF THE DRAGS"

The less than nine seconds it took Garlits to cover the quarter mile that day changed him from a small town dragster pilot into one of the fastest and most controversial figures in U. S. drag racing.

"Those few seconds," wrote one reporter, "not only changed Garlits, but changed American hot rodding as

well."

175 had long been considered a "tough" mark, a nearly impossible barrier reserved for some well known drivers. A covey of west coast drag handlers had been trying for it. Few had come close. None had made it.

The excitement of the crowd as Brooksville was small compared to the furor across the country. Response to the news that an unknown Florida driver, running on a little known Florida strip, had done what top drivers had failed to do, was loud, instantaneous and violent.

"There must be something phony

about the clocks," some drivers charged. "It is the concrete strip," the experts theorized. "Let's see what happens when he runs on a real strip," some writers taunted.

The controversy which followed the amazing run was totally unexpected by Garlits, a modest, selfeffacing lead foot. To him, the run, once it was completed, was an established fact. He was startled by the

protesting storm.

He realized early that local competition would not subdue the dubious comments that followed his history-making runs at Brooksville. The only solution, he decided, was to compete in other sections of the U.S. where strips and clocks could not be challenged. He made a whirlwind trip through the east and mid-west. At Montgomery, New York he charged down the quarter mile in 8.36 seconds. He took on all comers on strips from Cordova, Illinois to Caddo Mills, Texas. In most cases he broke 170. He lost only one race.

Early in the tour he had run against a very experienced, hot driver from Detroit, Michigan, Setto Postoian. Garlits had run at Cordova and in the midst of a run had blown a clutch. Don and his brother worked feverishly, replacing the clutch before time ran out. Postoian was at the line when Garlits came up.

The flag dropped. Garlits stomped on the throttle the same instant Postoian's foot shoved forward. The two cars roared from the line, nose to nose. Slowly, Garlits' car pulled to the front, rear wheels biting surely against the asphalt. The seconds ticked away as the two cars, still less than a length apart, roared toward the timing lights.

Three quarters of the way there was a quick, explosive sound. Postoian shot ahead. Garlits slowed. The second clutch, together with the lightweight aluminum flywheel had

disintegrated.

Despite the mid-west tour with spectacular wins and spectacular times, the controversy refused to die. Garlits was accepted as fast, but not the fastest.

"The only thing to do," a friend told him, "is to go west, to California. If you can beat the hot dogs out there they will have to believe you."

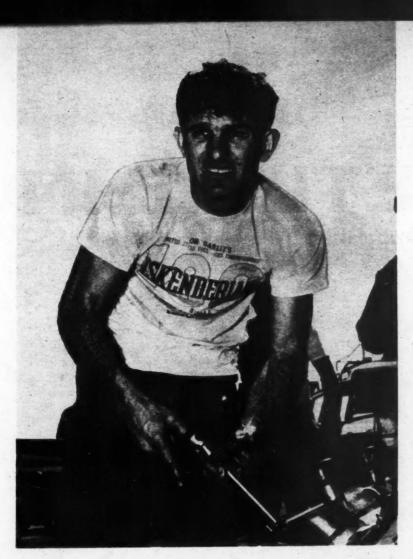
"That," Garlits replied, looking at his stock displacement, unblown Chrysler, "is easier said than done."

But Garlits towed his dragster across the country in the spring of '59 His first stop was Central California. The fastest California cars were on hand to greet him.

"If ever there was a race designed to separate the men from the boys," one reporter wrote, "This was it!"

By Sunday, the record-breaking crowd was worked to fever pitch. Garlits had blown one of his two engines on Saturday. Only by work-

Photo by D'Olivo, Hardee



ing through the night had Don and his brother replaced it with the spare. He was on the line, redeyed and tired, but full of fight. To that point, Garlits had been unquestionably outclassed, but he had managed a good showing. Beside him was the fast, big Kagle-Herbert car. The stage was set.

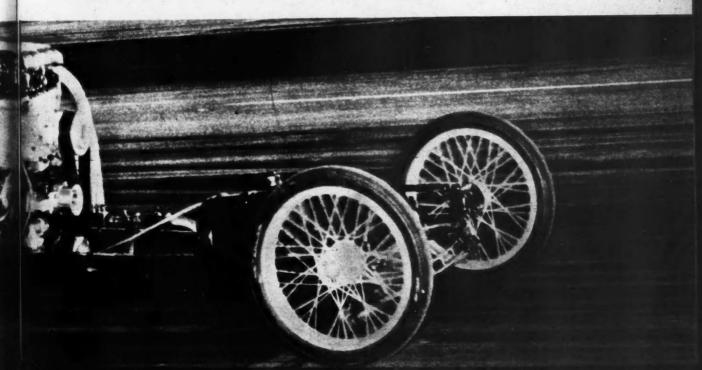
During the morning the fast machines had been narrowed down. Ernie Hashim had run, clocked 161, and lost to Setto Postoian. Hank Vincent's "Top Banana", lined up earlier with Garlits, had lost a clutch at the start and forfeited when time ran out.

The starter signalled. Garlits pumped the throttle furiously. The Kagle-Herbert car jumped from the line, rear wheels spinning hot rubber. Smoke poured from Garlits car but it stayed on the line, a rod punched through the block.

"Why don't you give up and go home?" a spectator taunted Garlits as he pushed the car back to the pits, "You'll never make the Northern California meet."

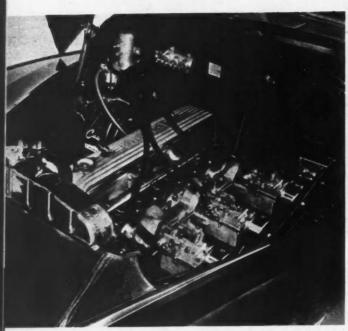
For two weeks, Garlits and his brother worked around the clock, rebuilding the two engines. He had learned from the Central California race that he was up against an impossible situation, running an unblown powerplant. He built a new engine, bored and stroked to 454 cubic inches. On top he mounted a 6-71

(Continued on page 56)



FLEETLINE IN

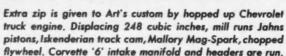
It takes a second look to determine where it all started with Art Jones' cleverly restyled custom car



Gene's Custom Shop in Art's home city of Portland, Oregon performed metalwork on his sleek looking '48 Chev. Most unique feature of the car is the hardtop styling derived from a sedan.

Filled, peaked and pointed hood dips toward molded cavity which houses extra long grille bars. Unusual S-shape nerf bars are run front and rear. '53 Merc rings used on frenched lights.

Filled fender seams at front and rear, radiused and flared wheel wells, are some of the items which make this custom outstanding. Novel taillight setup features four 1957 Corvette blinkers.



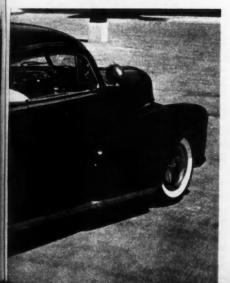


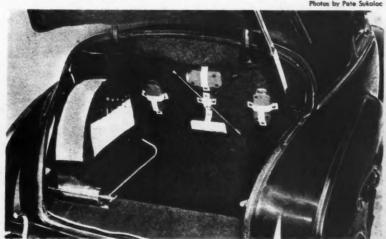


DISGUISE

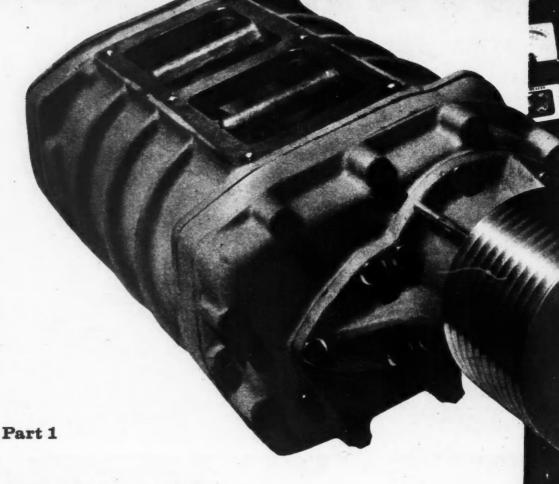








RACING BLOWERS



Competition Assembly and maintenance

for 371-471-671

GMC Superchargers

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE many different types of air superchargers available today only three general units are suitable for automotive use. The centrifugal fan type, the rotary vane, and Roots-type positive displacement units.

At one time the centrifugal supercharger was the type most commonly found, but at present McCulloch is the only manufacturer of these units. Although suitable for use on a conservative street machine, unless driven in dual stage the McCulloch lacks the low end



Text and photos by John Geraghty

performance necessary for drag racing competition.

The rotary vane supercharger although limited in R.P.M. and size makes a good unit for the smaller cubic inch engines and is widely used in England.

The Roots-type positive displacement supercharger is currently the most common, is readily available and best adapted type for the late O.H.V. engines.

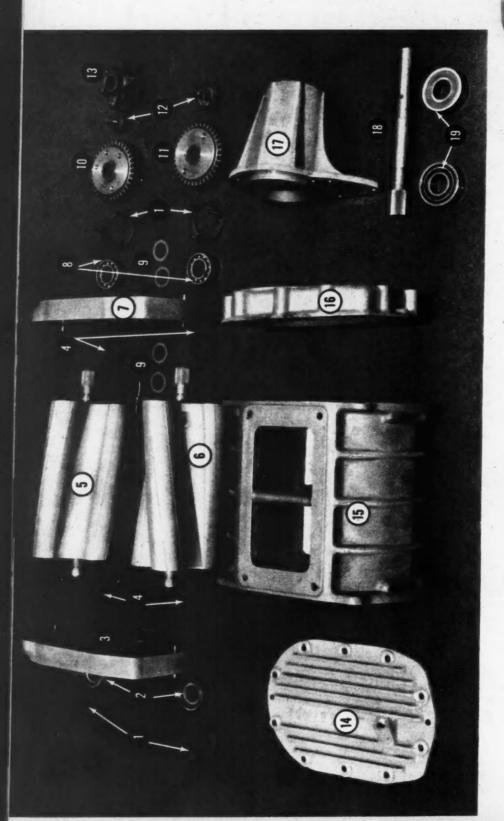
The GMC Roots-type supercharger is a very simple unit and its operation is as follows. Two interlocking rotors, normally with four lobes on each, rotate in a

bisymmetrical casing. Air is forced into the inlet side by atmospheric pressure and carried through the casing to the outlet side where it is exhausted. This process can best be associated with the common gear type oil pump.

"Positive displacement," a term which is commonly associated with all Roots-type superchargers, is based on the theory that each revolution of the supercharger produces an exact measurable volume of air depending on the size of the unit. Although this theory is quite readily

OCTOBER, 1959

CONTINUED





7. Front bearing support plate

Clearance shims Front bearings

Bearing retainer rings and bolts

Rear bearings

Rear bearing support plate Neoprene oil seals

Main drive rotor

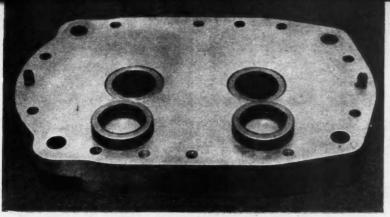
Driven rotor

Special snout housing

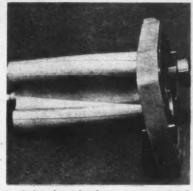
Main drive shaft Snout bearings, front and rear

14. Special rear plate
15. Rotor case
16. Front cover
17. Special snout housin
18. Main drive shaft
19. Snout bearings, front

10. Main drive gear11. Driven gear12. Main retainer cap screws and washers13. Main drive flange



1. First step is to install neoprene seals. Taper toward outside of plate.



2. Splined end of rotor is inserted thru seal; bearing is now positioned.



use of brass drift and small hammer. retainer rings, Torque to 25-30 lbs. gears, Unmachined driven gear (arrow).

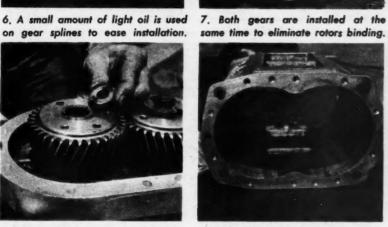


3. Bearings are installed with the 4. Bottom both bearings, then adapt 5. Refer to story for correct assembly of



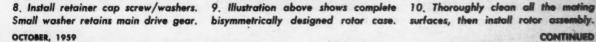




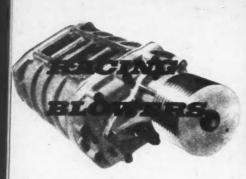




bisymmetrically designed rotor case. surfaces, then install rotor assembly.



CONTINUED





11. Front plate and case are secured together by tightening retainer screws.



12. Rear bearing support plate is now positioned; take care with alignment.



13. Both rear bearings are now aligned and driven into place as shown above.



14. At this point all the clearances are checked out, prescribed by story.



15. The rear plate is installed and evenly tarqued to 20-25 foot pounds.



large opening over main drive gear.



16. Front cover is adapted to unit; 17. Main drive flange is placed over 18. The special "snout" assembly is



main drive gear, then bolted in place. now positioned and tightly secured.



use 19/32-inch cup type Welch plugs.



19. Stock oil drain holes are plugged; 20. To modify clearances, gear puller is needed. Remove gears simultaneously.

accepted by most, it doesn't function quite this well. In order to reduce wear and excessive noise, clearances are built into the unit between rotors and casing. With the compression of air taking place in the manifold a certain slip loss is inevitable. This figure is dependent upon two major factors, the speed of the supercharger and the amount of desired boost. In order to benefit from the more positive manifold pressure available at low R. P. M. with this type of pressure induction, these clearances should be exact. This will also cancel the danger of rotor growth at high R.P.M. and reduce the ever-present high mixture temperatures.

Because of the scarcity of reliable information on the assembly of GMC 371, 471, and 671 superchargers, we have prepared a complete step-by-step photo series thru the cooperation of Tom Beatty, of Beatty Engineering, who in his own right is one of the most experienced men specializing in competition super-

chargers.

The first operation in the preparation of the unit will be the close examination of all the parts for excessive wear. The proper procedure is to take each part individually and wash it, paying particular attention to nicks or sharp edges on the rotors which should be filed perfectly smooth to eliminate high spots. The bearings should be checked for wear on the rollers and races; if worn, they should be replaced.

After the inspection and replacement of necessary parts, a clean, dust free working area must be selected for assembly of the supercharger.

To begin assembly the four neoprene oil seals are prepared for installation into the front and rear bearing support plates. This is accomplished by applying a thin coat of gasket sealer around the outer diameter of the metal face making sure not to allow any excess sealant to come in contact with the neoprene surfaces. The flat neoprene inner sleeve of the seals must be installed with the taper toward the outside of the bearing support plates, allowing assembly of the plates without damage to the neoprene liner. Being a press fit, a small arbor type press should be used to install the seals. If a press is not available a soft mallet may be used with care taken to install the seal evenly.

Now we are ready to install the rotors which will be referred to as the "main drive" and "driven rotor". The driven rotor is recognized by an unmachined area in the driving splines which protrude from the front of each rotor. This splined end of the driven rotor is inserted through the oil seal of the front bearing support plate opposite the rounded shoulder area. The front bearing may now be installed with the use of a brass drift and a small hammer. The bearing is bottomed into the front support plate. The main drive rotor is installed by interlocking the rotors and following the same procedure.

Both bearing retainer rings may now be installed. Three cap screws hold each retainer in place and should be evenly torqued to approximately 25-30 foot pounds.

The next step is the installation of both main drive and driven gears as a unit. The unmachined splines of the driven rotor must now be matched with the gear teeth of the driven gear. Both gears are installed at the same time, otherwise the rotors will bind together.

The main retainer cap screws and locking washers are installed with the larger washer retaining the driven gear. Each gear is brought to bottom and torqued to approximately 75 foot pounds.

The complete rotor assembly is ready to be inserted into the casing, care is taken to match the rounded shoulder area between the front plate and case. The front plate retainer screws are installed to marry the plate and casing and prevent the unit slipping apart during the remaining procedures.

The rear bearing support plate is installed and the rear bearings driven into position. Both rear bearing retainers are carefully tightened and the rear plate retaining screws installed as in the assembly of the front unit.

The clearance may now be checked and adjusted as necessary. The desired clearance for extreme R.P.M. operation under relatively high manifold pressures are as follows:

Clearances

- (1) Between Rotors .012
 (2) Between case and rotor, inlet side .011
 (3) Between case and rotor,
- exhaust side .007
 (4) Front bearing plate
- and rotor .009
 (5) Rear bearing plate

.013

These clearances can be checked by rotating paper of a given thickness through the rotors and between the case

and rotor

Rotor clearances are corrected by installing a shim between either of the front gears and bearings. This staggers the gears which are helically cut and causes one to climb the other, therefore the clearances are decreased or increased, whichever is desired.

The rotor to bearing retainer plate clearances may be changed by installing shims between the rotors and bearings. This spaces the rotor either forward or to the rear, whichever is necessary.

The clearance which gives the least problem is between the rotors and case. There are no adjustments for this clearance. Any increase desired must be machined into the case.

After the recommended clearances have been achieved a special rear plate is installed and torqued evenly to approximately 20-25 foot pounds.

The front cover is installed with the large hole over the main drive gear and tightened in the same manner as the rear plate.

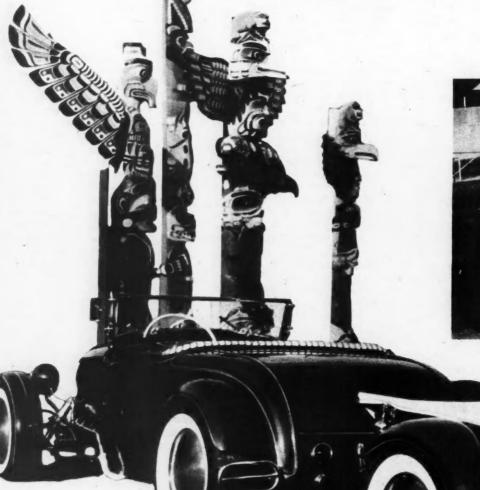
The main drive flange is bolted to the main drive gear and the special snout assembly is positioned and tightened in place.

The oil drain holes, located in the exhaust side of the blower, are now plugged with ¹%2-inch type Welch plugs. Some builders actually tap these holes to %-inch pipe, then utilize an ordinary pipe plug.

There are so many different types of drives and ready-made kits available for these superchargers that it is sometimes difficult to select the proper unit for your particular installation.

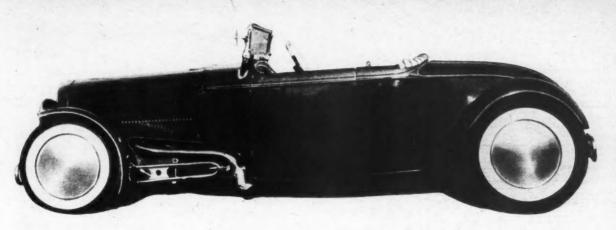
Next month we will deal extensively with this subject and try to help solve this problem by pointing out the advantages as well as disadvantages of each.

DOUBLE EUCE



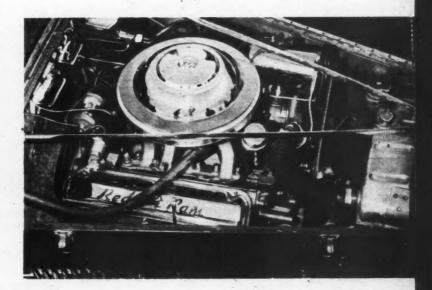
Jim McGowan from Vancouver, B.C. utilizes '32 Ford roadster for both business and pleasure - as salesman for a speed shop. The deuce/trailer combo has won several 1st place trophies.





Epitome of many rodders is this '32 Ford with channeled body and chopped windshield. Apache Red lacquer enhances trimless body; special louvered hood side panels. Bobbed cycle fenders are run. Chassis is '32 Ford with 3" dagoed front axle and '34 Ford rear unit. 5:90 front tires combined with 8:20 rear lend rake; note spun aluminum 'Moon' wheel discs.







Chromed front end has Monroe shocks for snubbing action, 'business' end of '37 Hudson steering gear, '48 Ford Spindles, '40 Ford hydraulic brakes.

Sturdy front nerf bar protects chopped and filled deuce grille. Headlights, mounted in standard roadster manner are universal type. Note nameplate.

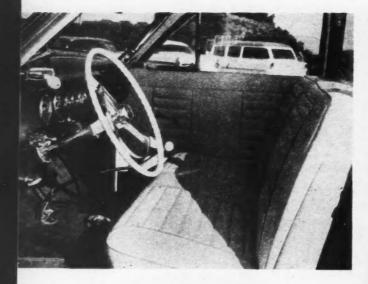
Rompin' Red Ram engine of '54 Dodge vintage powers roadster. Bored over, mill has ¼ cam, Jahns pistons, head modifications, and Holly 4-barrel carb.

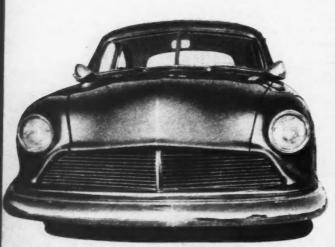


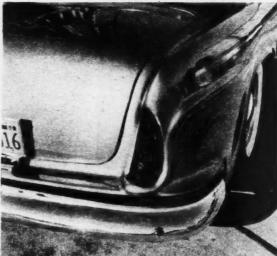
Photos by Bud Lang

STYLED FOR A YOUNG MAN'S FANCY









Burt Hamrol's radically redesigned '50 Ford was done by Hal's Body Shop, San Rafael, California. Extensive use of conduit can be seen surrounding the '57 Chrysler taillights and on radiused wheel wells.

Sparkling white Naugahyde interior was stitched by Galloway Zipf Upholstery in San Francisco. Instrument panel was hand formed of sheet metal—houses eight S.W. gauges and hand pump for fuel pressure.

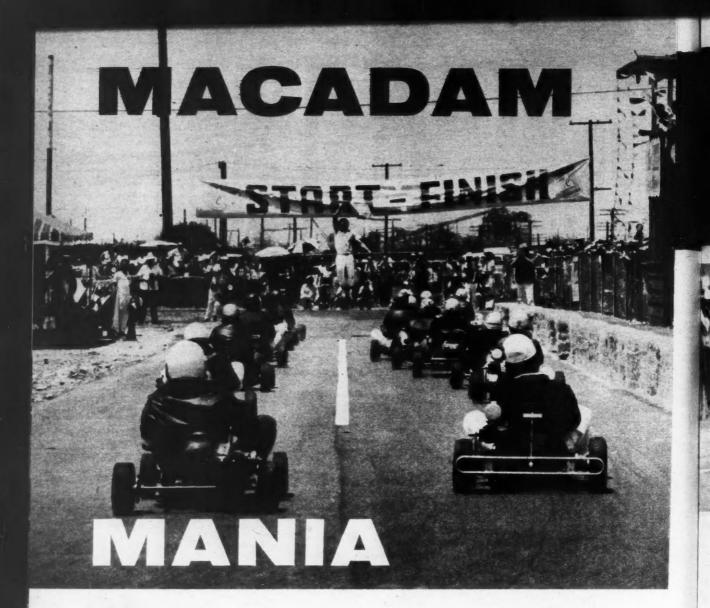
Extended hood capped with large roll conduit forms part of the grille cavity. Molded gravel shield is lower part of cavity, extends over top of bumper. Grille is made of flat bar stock which is chromed.



Photos by Frank Faraone

Rear gravel shield is frenched, extended over bumper as on the front. Shaved deck lid is sectioned 3 inches and has corners rounded. Note how windsplits are lengthened and trailed downward, leading to taillights. Burt has spent 2½ years on the car.





BY DON EVANS

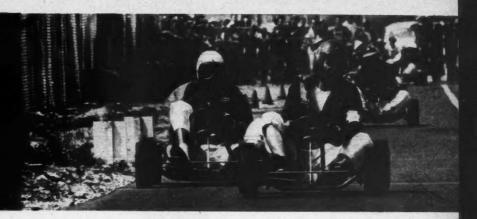
TWO YEARS IS A short time. But that is all the time it took from the birth of the karting sport to its 1st National Championship, held recently in Azusa, California. Sponsored by the Go Kart Club of America and the Azusa Chamber of Commerce, the three day event drew over one hundred entries from eight states. The Go Kart Raceway, an asphalt surfaced 4/10ths of a mile track with seven left and four right hand turns, was a new experience for many drivers who heretofore had driven only on flat, oval tracks. Friday was dedicated to practice to give all drivers a chance to get the feel of the miniature road race course and make necessary changes in gearing, etc. Saturday offered more time for practice as well as being qualifying day for the big race-day—Sunday.

A scoring system new to the karting sport was introduced at this first annual event. It is based on the Moto Cross point system long used in motorcycle and boat racing competition. Each class runs in three races, points being awarded drivers in respect to their finishing position. The points are then totaled, the winner being the driver who has collected the most points. The A Class (5.8 cu. in. max.), B Class (11.5 cu. in. max.), and C Class (16.5 cu. in. max.) each ran three 20-lap races. Only the top twenty qualifiers in each class were eligible for the main events.

The thrills of kart road racing were readily evident to the throngs of spectators. Seeing a machine rounding a sharp, un-banked turn at near 50 mph with the driver sitting just inches from the ground, one can see why this is the fastest growing motor sport in the nation. The professional-like driving of all the entrants kept the onlookers "glued to the rail" throughout the race-day schedule.

When word gets around of the fun had by this year's competitors, winners and losers alike, the well organized and smooth run National Championship for karters is destined to be even bigger and better next year.

Karting's First National Road Race Championship proves battle royal for driving skill, special designs, new norsepower, and manufacturers' competition







Photos by D'Olivo, Broiller, Holi

TOP • Dick Geer, driving a twin McCulloch powered Bug, leads Chuck Balsiger into a turn. Dick was only driver to win all three races in class, emerged '59 National Champion with 1200 points.

ABOVE • Determination shows on face of Jimmy Yamane as he powers thru a corner. After blowing his engine in the first heat, Jim borrowed another and came on to win A Class victory.

ABOVE RIGHT • Well organized pit area was scene of constant activity during three day event. Manufacturer team entries were numerous, competition keen.

RIGHT • Crowd pleaser, Faye Pierson, gives Jim Yamane a run for his money. Right and left "body english" is needed in short S-turn. Faye took second place in A Class after breaking a chain in one heat — showed fine driving skill. OCTOBER, 1959



MACADAM MANIA

Two cuties with calluses! Jan McCullogh from Fort Worth, Texas, discusses the hazards of driving with Faye Pierson. Proving that the females were not to be laughed at, Faye set a new track record for A Class at 42.2 seconds.

The Percival Mfg. Co. of Boone, lowa, sent a team of cars. The Kurtis designed carts were West Bend powered, ran in A and B class. Drivers were brought down from Lancaster, Calif., for meet.







RIGHT °C Class championship ended just as seen here and almost as close, Al McDonald (leading) took top honors with Bill Landefeld a close second, Each ran a Villiers motorcycle engine for a powerplant, Varied adaptations were present.

BELOW - Gilbert Evans drove three smooth races, captured second place in B Class, Here, he leads winner Geer thru tricky banked turn. Gil's Hovey Hawk's powered by Mercury chain-saw engine.







LEFT • Largest out-of-state entry came from Fort Worth, Texas. There were nine cars and fourteen participants representing the Spyder "500" carts manufactured in Fort Worth. The team had the only out-of-state female entries.

Car which received most attention at the meet was a Yamaha powered special built by Gene Wise, Engine is a 15 cu, in, twin from a Japanese motorcycle. This was the first time the car had been run and it performed exceptionally well having more than enough power. A broken axle put it out of running.

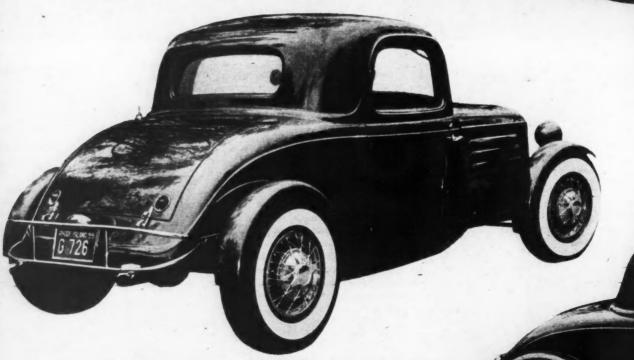
The Go Kart Club provided added excitement at intermissions such as the two wheel antics by Duffy Livingstone seen here. Also the small "bikes" ran an exhibition race. The spectators thoroughly enjoyed the three day event.





TANDOW SANDRITE

George Smaldone's early street coupe can't break from tradition — it's always in the running



Channeled coupe is mounted upon '33 Ford frame with '40 Ford suspension and brakes, '37 Plymouth steering gear. Cycle fenders cover 6:40 front, 7:10 rear tires on Merc wheels. Nerf bar used on rear, taillights housed in small chrome bezels, Deck lid secured by snap-locks. '39 Ford trans uses Lincoln Zephyr gears.







Smaldone worked with Frank's Auto Top, Providence, R.I. in stitching sharp black and red leather and Naugahyde upholstery to harmonize with Siren Red lacquered body. Safety padded dash. Padded frame rails indicate deep 71/2" channelling job; seats are reworked.

car racing machines built the coupe for pleasure and personal accomplishment. Nerf bar protects '37 Ford truck grille; hood is liberally louvered, side panels from an early GMC product.

Flatheads forever! Faithful '48 Merc block is bored to 3-15/16", stroked to 4" displacing a healthy 256 cubes. A Harmon-Collins cam, Jahns pistons, Kogel 9-1 heads, Mallory ignition, and Merc carb provide top performance.







BARRIS KUSTOM

RESTYLES

THE '58 CHEVROLET

S INCE THE RESTYLE features started, few cars have ever been chosen for a return engagement. This month, however, we are bringing the '58 Chevrolet back for a second time. We first restyled the Chev in February of 1958 with Joe Wilhelm handling the customizing chore. For our second run, we asked George Barris of Barris Kustom Shop, Lynwood, California to give us his professional opinion of the Chevy.

As a rule, we give the customizers a free-hand at the cars which they are asked to restyle. Their only restriction is that they keep their ideas within the range of \$1000. But, since we are running one of the most popular cars on the market, the '58 Impala, we asked Barris

to utilize only the existing body lines of the Chev in his interpretation, since we feel that one of the major reasons for this car's popularity lies with its contours.

BODY MODIFICATIONS

First item on the agenda was to remove all the exterior chrome frills. In the completed stage the Impala does not have one piece of exterior garnishing which does not portray a role in contour enhancement or as an integral part of one of the features. As is usually the case with our restyles, the door handles are removed. However, some customizers do not desire to use an electric solenoid system for door operation, so this item is strictly optional.

George Barris





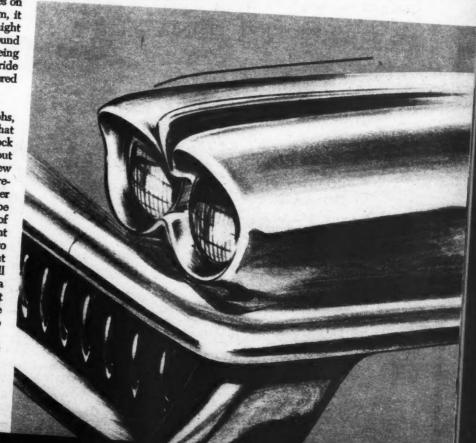


Because the Chev already takes on a low silhouette in its stock form, it was not lowered. To some, this might be the first step, but with the ground clearance of the late models being almost at a minimum for proper ride and comfort, it is not considered necessary.

FRONTAL CHANGES

If you'll look at the photographs, then the illustrations, you'll see that the front end uses basically stock lines. The bumper is removed, but the over-all appearance of the new lower portion of the grille shell retains the stock dimension. The upper bar is acutally a large round tube frenched-in which carries the line of vision from the rear of the front wheel opening up over the grille to the other side. It is also used to cut the size of the grille cavity, as well as the wheel openings, giving it a flat top rather than the curved effect on the stock Chevy. The entire grille shell and lower pan are frenched into one unit.

For grille replacement, one of the latest fads was exploited by procuring large drawer handles (or pulls)



for use. These are found in any hardware store and provide an easy and inexpensive type of grille. Evenly spaced, they are mounted on hidden brackets within the shell.

Headlights are stock assemblies, but appearance is changed by frenching and tunneling them to the fenders. They possess a deep 'V' cavity between the lamp units of the quad set-up. This cavity extends back to mid-fender.

REAR ASPECT

A uniform design is considered by many as the best, therefore the rear end is modified to resemble the front. This includes the use of a rear end grille which is constructed much in the same manner as that of the front. A thick length of round rod tubing is used to enhance the rear wheel openings, as well as to cut the size down. This tubing is molded to the body and extends from the wheel around the fender to form an upper lip for the rear end grille. It incorporates and covers the semi-wind split found on the Chev's rear quarter panels. The rear pan is rolled and forms the bottom edge of the rear grille cavity. This shell is not as large as the front, therefore, smaller sized drawer handles were installed in the opening. In the center of the shell

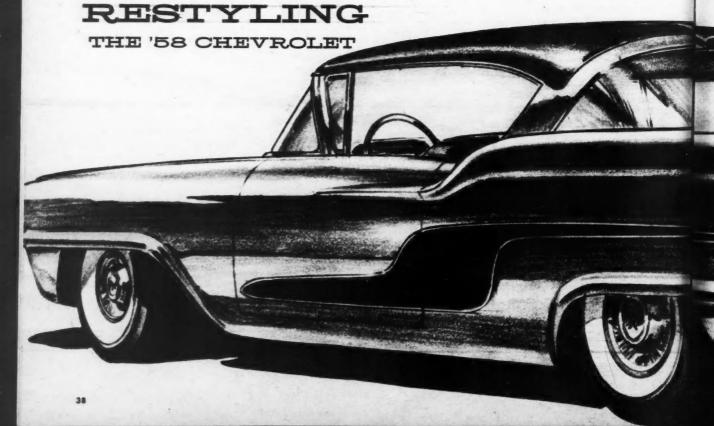
and grille assembly is the license plate.

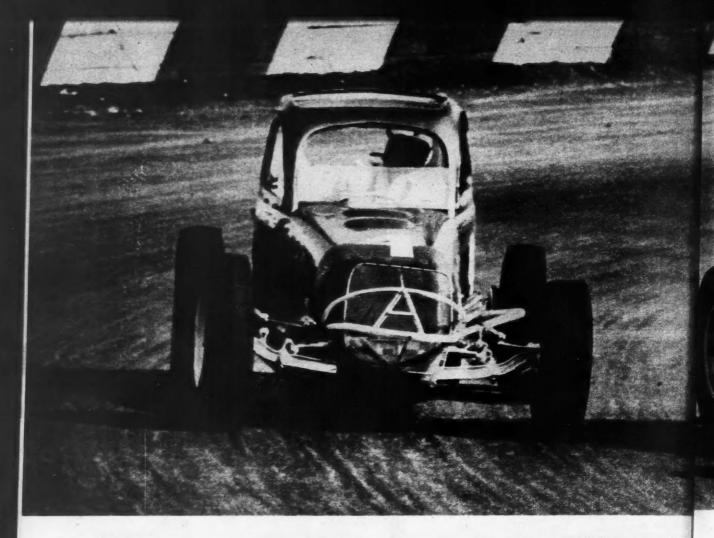
A new taillight idea resulted in a built-up fender fin, which is relatively of minor nature on the stock Chevy. It was decided to install '58 Edsel taillights in a reversed position. Upon the lens surface of the Edsel units are mounted three '59 Cadillac taillights, presenting a rather bizzarre effect. To mount this taillight assembly, the rear fenders were built-up, adding a lower edge of curved metal. This new innovation extends from the middle of the door rearward. Since this new fin resembles a distorted S-shape, side trim was constructed to match. The inner section of the trim can be painted a contrasting color, as it is here, or it could be filled with a panel of Mylar tape or strips of Chrome Tape.

DETAILS

George felt that the stock roof scoop left much to be desired, so he changed it by constructing a new scoop, extending it further forward on the roof, and left it ungarnished with trim.

For paint, Barris feels that most any color would do this custom justice, but he does add that a nice Kandy Kolor paint job would really make it 'come on.'

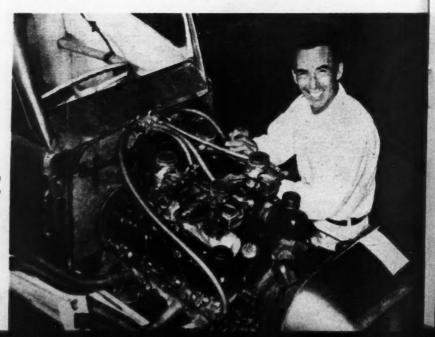




CHAMP OF THE

Beneath Willys disguise, Art Pratt combines 300 HP Buick and Mercedes gearbox for champion hybrid track rod

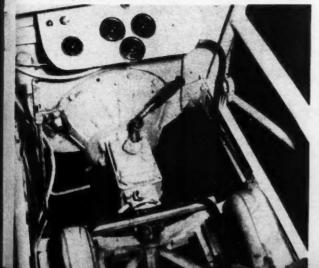
Art Pratt, Jr., of Escondido, California makes last minute adjustments on the powerful 345 cubic inch '53 Buick mill. Engine features 1/6" longer stroke, Isky cam, push rods, lifters, 11-1 compression ratio with Buick heads, JE pistons, Weiand manifold with four Stromberg 97 carburetors, and Mallory ignition.

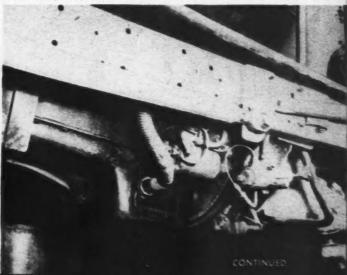




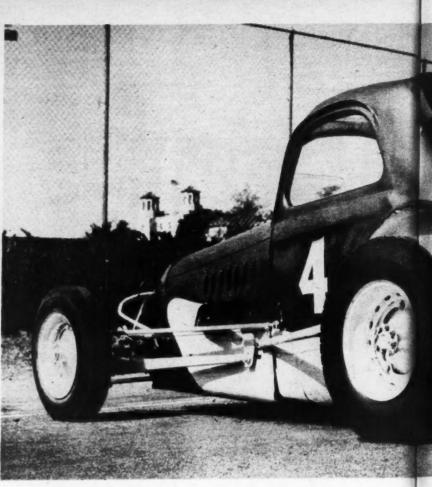
"SPORTSMEN"

Many ingenious technical features are found on Pratt's hot Sportsman class rod. Witness coupling of '57 Mercedes-Benz 300 SL 4-speed trans to Buick mill via homemade adaptor. Another Mercedes component was drafted into use by Pratt, this time on the engine. An SL oil pump was used to convert Buick to dry sump with oil drawn from tank in rear of the car.



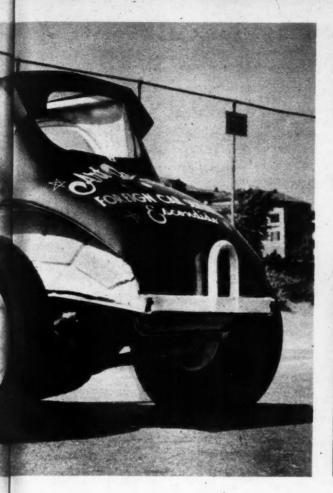






CHAMP OF THE "SPORTSMEN"







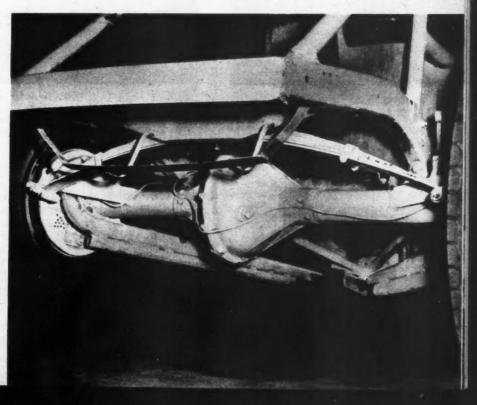
Doors are welded shut for safety purposes, therefore entry is accomplished by entering open top or rear window. Inside are sturdy 'squirrel cage' bars.

Truly a hybrid hot rod, #4, as it is known by the Sportsman racing crowd, uses a much-modified '39 Willys coupe body with special nose, hood panels.

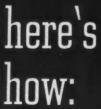
Front end of the '26 Chevrolet chassis with 96" wheelbase has '32 Ford transverse spring, axle, '37 Ford spindles, Houdaille shocks, Franklin steering.

RIGHT • Rear counterpart with transverse spring uses '39 Ford ¾ ton truck rear end, 4.87 ratio, Houdaille shocks, '39 Ford brakes, Note the radius rods.

Photos by Bob Hardee











Photos by George Barris

POPULAR QUADS TAKE
ON FOREIGN FLAVOR
AS CUSTOMIZERS
DISCOVER ENGLISH
LUCAS HEADLIGHTS

WITH THE INFLUX of foreign cars on the American market it was certain that custom car enthusiasts soon would be borrowing bits of the foreign styling for use on their domestic creations. One of the ideas recently sweeping the show circles is the substitution of English Lucas headlights for their American counterpart. The beauty of the installation is that it requires no cutting up of the fenders or headlights, as the Lucas lamps are available in the same sizes as our headlights—both the large single units or the newer quad variety. Of course, if they are used in a restyled headlight setting the effect is twice as good. The lights may be had in either clear or frosted lenses, both having the center chrome bullet. However, state laws should be checked before the clear lenses are used for driving lights.

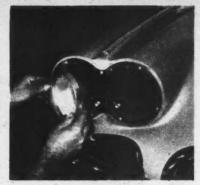
Approximate prices for the necessary components to perform this swap are: beam units \$5.00 each, light bulbs \$1.25 each, attaching sockets \$2.40 each. They are available or may be ordered thru most of the leading import auto dealers. The above photos show a few customized installations that have adapted the lights, while the step-by-step photos will explain the procedures for performing the switch on a stock car.



1. First step is to remove the stock headlight ring from the fender housing.



2. Next, disconnect the wires and remove the sealbeams from the buckets.



3. After removing the sealbeams, pull wires thru and remove light buckets.



4. Clip off the ends of the stock wires that connected to the original lights.



5. Splice a piece of wire to each stock wire and attach new clips on the ends.



6. Solder together all splices and attachment clips. Keep neat as possible.



7. Insert the new light bulbs into the Lucas headlights. Hold in this position.



8. With the new bulb in place, twist lock the new socket in place on lamp.



9. Insert wire clips into their designated spots and attach ground wire.



10. Fit the Lucas lights into the stock buckets, then secure them to fender.

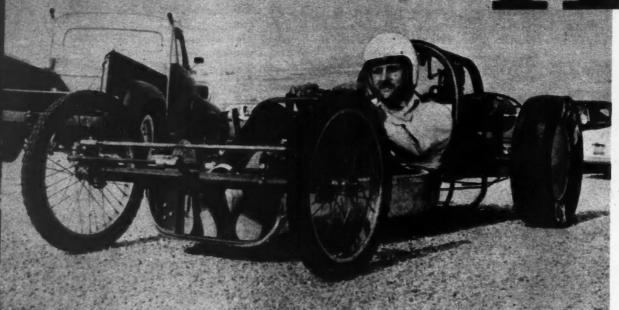


11. Finish up the job by replacing the original headlight ring to the fender.



12. Although headlights are in stock surroundings, custom appeal is gained.

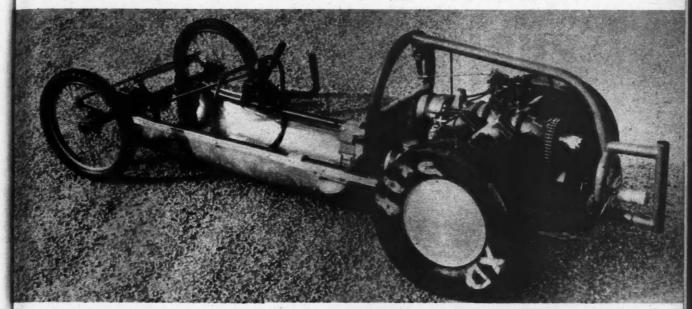
DRAGSTER



Randy Rannberg of Fontana, California is owner, builder, driver of miniature dragster shown getting off the line in the photo below. Best time to date is 87 mph with straight through gearing. Future calls for a 4-speed Ariel trans.



Sometimes called "King Of The Carts" - experimental lightweight runs out at 90 mph in quarter mile



Not much bigger than a good sized cart, Rannberg's drag machine has a 72" wheelbase, 40" tread fore/aft. Frame is of thick-wall tubing, semi-belly pan is of aluminum sheet.

Entire steering assembly is of the simplest design possible: direct. Bicycle handgrips used on steering T-bar, lever on driver's right. Schwinn front wheels have Firestone tires.

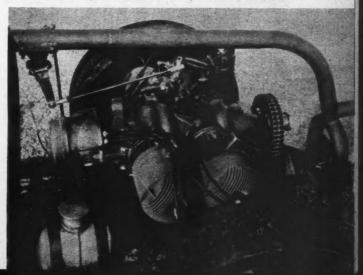
Unique engine for dragster is four-cylinder Drone aircraft engine displacing 95 cubic inches. Bore, stroke are same: 3 1/4"; single Winfield carb, Harley-Davidson clutch used.

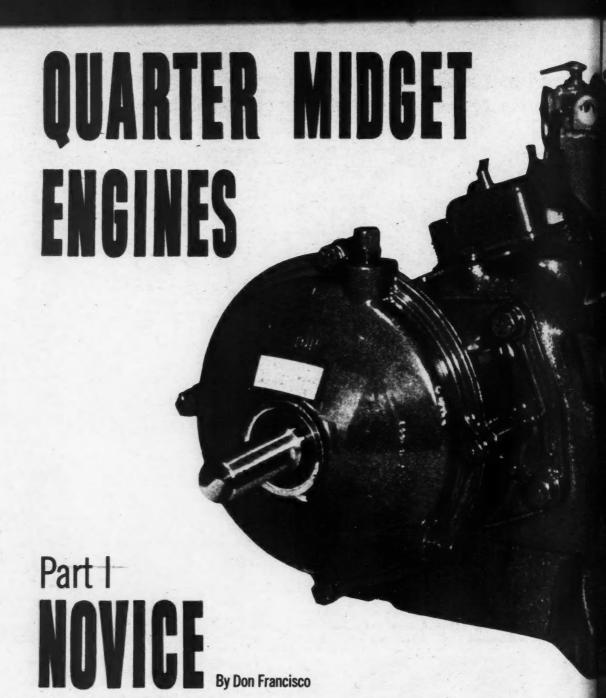
To convert the engine's power to the road, a chain drive system is used, 5.25-1 is ring/pinion ratio. Austin Bantam axle is shortened; Crosley wheels run 5:00 x 12 tires.











WHEN CAR CRAFT MAGAZINE published a quarter midget engine article in June and July of 1957, quarter midget racing was just getting a solid grip in some parts of the country as a family participation sport. Now, two years later, active quarter midget associations can be found in practically every part of the nation. Because of this nationwide popularity, one of the sport's growing pains has been the lack of standardization of its engine rules and specifications.

Most of the associations have made their own rules to fit their particular needs. This is the natural thing to do and there isn't anything wrong with the practice as long as the members of the different associations compete only on their own tracks. The flaw in the "home-base" practice becomes apparent when members of one association try to run on a track that is

operated by another association or at one of the annual Championship meets.

NATIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

CONTINUED

QUARTER MIDGET ENGINES

This problem is steadily becoming more pronounced. Its only solution is the adoption of a set of rules and specifications by the nation's quarter midget racing associations. Such a set of rules and specifications is now in use by a number of the associations in the southwest states. They are the new "National Rules." These compatible rules have been adopted for such National meets as Phoenix, Las Vegas, Fresno, and the recent Tulsa, Oklahoma, Championship event.

Universal adoption of the National Rules by racing associations would take all the problems of inter-association competition out of the sport. Car owners could compete at any track that employed the National Rules without having to make mechanical changes to the engines in their cars. It would be possible for a resident of any state in the country to travel to any other state and race on an equal basis.

Purposes of this article are twofold. One is to introduce the National Rules to all associations that might not be familiar with them in the hope that these associations will adopt them and write them into their racing specifications. Our second endeavor is to show the latest methods of reworking a Continental AU7R engine for maximum performance, within the limitations set forth for each of the four National Rules classes. The modifications will be made by Kong Jackson, of Jackson Engineering, Research, and Design in Glendale, Calif. Many of the engines Kong has built have been highly successful in West Coast Q-M racing. Although any engine that meets the displacement and basic horsepower specifications set forth in the rules can be used in competition governed by the National Rules, the Connie AU7R is almost standard equipment in quarter midget racing.

In their present form, the National Rules are as follows:

Basic engines for Class 1 and 2

must not have a cylinder displacement greater than 7.3 cubic inches nor have a factory power rating greater than 2.5 horsepower.

Engines for all classes must be of the L-head type (flathead, sidevalve).

Supercharging of any type is not allowed in any class.

Spraying of fuel into the engine at pressure above atmospheric is not allowed in any class.

The word "Stock" means that the component so designated must be a part that was made originally for the make and model engine being used. Parts designated as stock cannot be altered in any way. As an example, a stock camshaft for a Continental AUTR engine must have the manufacturer's part number of I-216 and it must not have been reground.

Minimum flywheel weight for engines in all classes is specified as 95 percent of stock weight. For the Connie AU7R, the minimum weight is 1 pound, 11 ounces.

Gasoline and fuel for all classes is to be supplied by the meet officials.

"STOCK"

Engines for "Stock," or "Class 1," which are stock gas engines for the Junior division (drivers of ages 4 through 8) and Senior division (drivers of ages 9 through 15) must comply with the following specifications:

A displacement maximum of 7.3 cubic inches.

Stock cylinder head.

Stock cylinder block surface under head (machining up to .010-inch allowed to flatten the surface).

Stock dimension valves.

Any type of valve spring keepers.

Stock intake port.

Stock exhaust port (port may be enlarged to a diameter of .875-inch to remove threads).

Stock camshaft.

Flywheel weight minimum:

95 percent of stock.

Engine may drive only one of the car's wheels.

"MODIFIED"

Engines for "Modified," or "Class 2," which are gas engines for the Junior and Senior divisions, must comply with the following specifications:

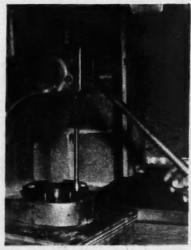
A displacement maximum of 7.5 cubic inches.



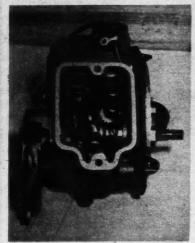
Continental AUTR, donated by manufacturer, being prepared for reworking.



Positioning the piston in the cylinder prior to advancing the ignition timing.



Pressing the breaker cam shaft back into the cam in new advanced position.



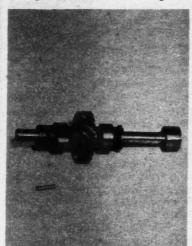
Special heavy-duty oil dipper in place on engine's standard connecting rod.



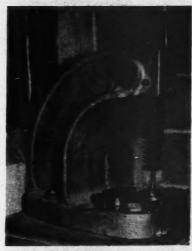
Four 1/4-inch hole in inner gear housing provide additional engine ventilation.



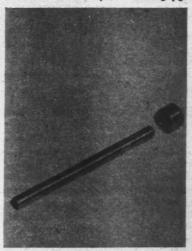
Drilling holes in exhaust port flange with the aid of a special drilling jig.



Simple construction uses ignition system shaft as bearing journals for camshaft.



Forcing the ignition system's breaker cam shaft out of the cam with a press.



Ignition system shaft and breaker cam, after cam has been removed from shaft.



Loosening the capscrew that secures the ignition breaker plate to cylinder block.



points open, as indicated by voltmeter. separating the flywheel from the crank.



Rotating the breaker plate to make the 'A gear puller is usually required for

QUARTER MIDGET ENGINES

Stock camshaft.
Flywheel weight minimum:
95 percent of stock.

The engine may drive only one of the car's wheels.

"GAS"

Engines for "Gas," or "Class 3," which are open-gas engines for drivers of ages 4 through 15, must comply with the following specifications:

A maximum displacement of 8.3 cubic inches.

"FUEL"

Engines for "Fuel," or "Class 4," which are open-fuel engines for drivers of ages 4 through 15, must comply with the following specifications:

A maximum displacement of 8.3 cubic inches.

The National Rules do not include a "Basic," or "Novice," class. This is a class that many associations employ for new members, their cars and beginning drivers. The modifications allowed to the stock engine in this so-called "Basic" or "Novice" classification are only those that add to the longevity of the engine and allow it to perform more smoothly.

The reason this class was omitted from the National Rules is that events for strictly novice drivers are seldom included in National events. However, to make this engine series as complete as possible and of the most value to associations that might choose to adopt the National Rules and also have a class for new drivers, rules for a Basic engine will be included. These additional rules, in combination with the National Rules, will provide a complete set of engine specifications that will cover all phases of quarter midget racing.

As it would be impractical to specify Basic rules for all makes of engines that could be used in quarter midgets, the following specifications apply only to the Continental AU7R.

"NOVICE"

The engine must be completely stock, as received from the factory;

however, the following modifications are allowed.

Installation of a heavy-duty oil dipper on the connecting rod.

Drilling of four quarter-inch vent holes in the inner reduction gear housing.

Drilling and tapping two holes in the exhaust pipe flange on the cylinder block to permit the installation of a flanged pipe.

Advancing the ignition timing.

Installation of a standard automotive-type flexible fuel line, and a shutoff valve and carburetor fitting to match, between the engine's fuel tank and carburetor.

Installation of flexible hoses between the gear box filler opening and the valve chamber cover and a special vent of some sort. Several vent devices are made for this purpose by quarter midget parts manufacturers.

Removal of the carburetor air cleaner, the muffler, and the complete governor assembly.

It is recommended that all bolts and nuts in the engine assembly be either fitted with lock washers or safety wired to prevent their being loosened by vibration and lost.

To make the permissible modifications to a Basic engine it is necessary to remove the engine's flywheel shroud, complete governor assembly, air cleaner, muffler, rubber fuel line and fittings, starter pulley and wire mesh flywheel guard, flywheel, inner and outer reduction gear housings, ignition cover, oil sump, connecting rod dipper, and cylinder head.

Installation of the new rod dipper is merely a matter of bolting it to the rod in the same position as the original dipper. The special dipper will withstand higher engine speeds than the stock dipper because it is made of stronger material.

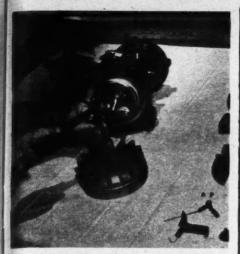
The four quarter-inch vent holes in the inner reduction gear housing are drilled so that they are equally spaced between the stiffening fins on the crankcase side of the cover. They should be approximately 1-inch from the edge of the bore for the crankshaft. These holes will allow pressures created in the gear housing and crankcase when the engine is running to flow from the gear case to the crankcase, or vice versa, and then to the atmosphere through the vent hoses attached to the engine. Relieving the pressure in this manner will prevent its forcing oil out of the

engine past the various seals in the crankcase and gear case. The holes also allow oil in the engine's sump to flow freely into the gear case where it can lubricate the reduction gears. When filling the crankcase, pour one pint of oil into the regular crankcase filler opening and then tilt the engine so that part of the oil can run into the gear case. When the engine is returned to its normal position, the oil in the crankcase and gear case will automatically seek its operating level.

The holes drilled in the exhaust port flange should be spaced so that the distance between their centers is I%-inch. This spacing can be determined accurately by using an intake manifold or its gasket as a guide. The holes should be equally spaced on either side of the exhaust port. Use a number seven drill and drill to a depth of approximately %-inch. Thread the holes with a %-inch, 20 thread tap. It is not permissible to remove the threads from the exhaust passage of a Basic engine.

Advancing the ignition timing requires a little more knowledge than the rest of the Basic engine modifications but it is just as easy to do once the principle is understood. Start by rotating the crankshaft in its normal direction of rotation to move the piston up the cylinder on its compression stroke to a point where its head is between %6-and X-inch from the top of the cylinder block. Be sure the piston is on its compression stroke. Also, it is important that the crankshaft be rotated in its normal direction when the piston is being positioned because this places the gears between the crankshaft and the ignition shaft in the same relationship they occupy when the engine is running.

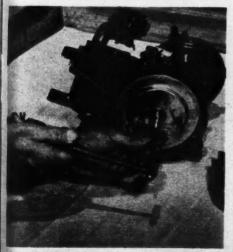
With the piston in its specified position the ignition system's breaker points should be open just enough to stop the flow of current in the magneto's primary circuit. When the points are in this position the rubbing block on the movable point arm must be in contact with the leading edge of the breaker cam lobe. To guarantee this, rotate the breaker plate on which the points are mounted the same direction the breaker cam rotates until the rubbing block is ahead of the cam and then rotate it in the opposite direction until the points just open, or "break."



Marking inner edge of flywheel to simplify installation in its new position.



Marking the outer edge of the flywheel prior to advancing it on the crankshaft.



Reference mark must be made on end of crankshaft in line with the keyway. CONTINUED



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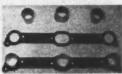
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QUARTER MIDGET ENGINES

The position of the breaker plate at which the points open can be best determined electrically by connecting either a battery and a six-volt light bulb fitted with suitable leads, an ohmmeter, or some other electrical circuit continuity testing instrument in series with the points. The bulb will be lit, or the tetsing instrument wil show current flow, when the points are closed, and the light will go out, or the instrument will show that electrical flow has ceased, the instant the points are open.

To connect a light bulb or a continuity testing instrument to the points for this purpose, connect one of the device's leads to the terminal post on the movable point arm spring support and the other to ground. The lead from the magneto coil that is usually connected to the movable point arm must be disconnected while the device is in the circuit because the coil provides a path to ground regardless of whether the points are open or closed.

Another method of determining point opening time which isn't as precise as the electrical methods described but close enough for an engine of this type is with a piece of cellophane. Place the cellophane between the closed points so that the points grip it securely. Then exert a light pressure on it in an effort to pull it from between the points while the point plate is being slowly rotated to move the points toward the breaker cam. The instant the movable point arm is lifted enough by the breaker cam to allow a moderate pressure to pull the cellophane from between the points, the points can be considered open.

It is seldom possible to rotate the breaker plate enough to advance the timing the desired amount unless the slot for the capscrew that anchors the plate is elongated or the breaker cam is rotated on its shaft. Either of these things, to be done correctly, requires removal of the breaker cam's shaft from the engine. This is done by separating the cylinder block from

its sump, removing the pin that locks the shaft to the camshaft, and then pulling the shaft out of the cylinder block. While pulling the shaft out of the block push another shaft of the same diameter (%-inch) or slightly smaller through the block and the camshaft from the bottom. This shaft will hold the camshaft in its normal relationship with the crankshaft until the distributor shaft is reinstalled.

Elongating the slot in the breaker plate is a simple matter after the plate has been removed from the engine but rotating the breaker cam on its shaft is a more workmanlike method of making the correction. If the cam is to be repositioned, determine the amount it must be rotated before removing the shaft from the engine. To do this, place the piston in its specified position and adjust the breaker plate so that its anchor capscrew is in the middle of its adjustment slot. The amount and direction the cam will have to be rotated to place its leading edge in contact with the rubbing block on the point arm can then be determined visually and the cam and shaft marked accordingly. A press of some sort should be used to force the shaft out of the cam and the cam back onto the shaft in its new position. Reassemble the parts in their correct relationship and adjust the breaker plate.

So that the secondary voltage created by the engine's magneto will be at its peak value when the breaker points open in their advanced position, the engine's flywheel must be advanced on the crankshaft. The flywheel is involved in the ignition system because it contains the magnets that create the primary voltage for the system's magneto. Advancing the flywheel is simply a matter of rotating it on the crankshaft; however, before this can be done it is necessary to remove the key that locates the wheel in its stock position from the shaft. It won't be possible to use the key after the flywheel has been repositioned because the keyways in the wheel and shaft will no longer be in

The amount to advance the flywheel is equal to 1% times the distance between two of the wheel's fins. Locate and mark a point on the outer edge of the flywheel that is in line with both the center of the wheel's keyway and the bore for the crankshaft. Measure back (counterclock-

wise when facing the outside of the wheel) from this point a distance equal to 1% times the distance between two of the wheel's fins. Make a mark at this point. Slip the flywheel onto the crankshaft so that this mark is in line with a line that would pass through the center of the keyway in the crankshaft and the center of the shaft. Install a flat washer of the correct size and then the stock lock washer and nut that secure the wheel to the shaft and tighten the nut to 70 foot-pounds with a good torque wrench. The crankshaft can be locked while the nut is being tightened by inserting a clean piece of wood or some other soft material between it and the inside of the crankcase.

A set of genuine Ford breaker points. Ford part number FAA 12171. will replace the stock Connie points without alteration and is recommended in the interest of better engine operation and longer point life. Lubricate the breaker cam with a thin coat of special breaker cam lubricant. Adjust the points to open a maximum of .012-inch. Points that open more than this may bounce and those that open less may prevent the magneto from creating its maximum secondary voltage. New points must be installed and adjusted before the ignition timing is adjusted.

A drive ratio of 2 to 1 is usually the best for an engine of this type. This can be provided by a 12-tooth engine gear and a 24-tooth gear on the drive wheel, or any other 2 to 1 gear combination.

NEXT MONTH

PART II:
"STOCK" ENGINE

National Rules and Specifications

Complete Engine Modifications

Speed Equipment Buyers Guide



Aligning flywheel on the shaft with aid of the reference marks made previously.



The flywheel retaining nut must be tight. Shaft is locked with a piece of plastic.



Stock parts in foreground are discarded when converting engine for Novice use.

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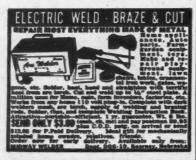
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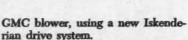
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"KING DRAGS"



The Central California loss was the only one on the west coast. Ready for Northern California he took on all comers, including jet-hot Setto Postojan, Garlits clocked 165.78 mph in a blistering 9.02 seconds, winning the title of Top Eliminator. In the process he beat out Bill Crossley at the wheel of the class A Hashim-Hylton-Crossley machine (Crossley killed his engine, giving Don an easy 138 victory); the Cortopassi "Glass Slipper" which has turned over 160 mph: and, the Waters-Sughrue-Guinn roadster which turned a fast 163.33 mph in 9.14 seconds.

Later, Garlits ran in Chandler, Arizona, where he was clocked at 175 mph in 8.43 seconds. Still the critics kept at him. "He just hasn't run against the best drivers and the best cars," they said.

Garlits is sensitive to this kind of criticism. He feels he has raced against some mighty fast machines. The fastest car, in his estimation, was the Water's roadster ("That was the toughest of all," he says.) Yet Garlits admits he has missed competition with some of the best-known speed-

"I haven't run against Art Chrisman," he says, "and I know he is one of the very best."

It is because of this that Garlits' happiest moments came recently during a run at Houston, Texas. There, on a measured 1320 drag strip he clocked 182.56 mph in 8.48 seconds to win the title "King of the 1320", a title that had been previously held by Art Chrisman.

Before his sizzling 182 mph run, one eastern writer asked Garlits, "Why is it that the times you clock away from Brooksville are slower?"

Garlits had an interesting answer. "It is simple," he said, "It takes time to learn a strip. If I had had time to



get acquainted with the Central or Northern California strips or any other strip for that matter as I know the Florida strips, I could move the speeds upward. You send any West Coast driver to Florida and his times will drop until he learns the best pattern of the strip."

Don will continue to run, but next year he will run even less in Florida. The Brooksville strip is now closed. The one and only strip remaining in Florida will see some of his efforts, but he will spend most of his time (he plans to run every weekend, if he can) in the Carolinas and the midwest.

"I'm always ready to run," he says. Because he honestly feels this way, he cannot understand why other dragsters are not ready to do battle with him. For example, while he was participating in Central California, he was on the same strip with some of the West Coast's best speed merchants. "But after my engine blew somewhat early in the meet," he said, "and I moved north two weeks later for the second big West Coast drag race, none of the hot boys followed me."

"If any of the California boys come east to run," he added, "they will find me running against them every week. I don't mind driving a few hundred miles to run against some real competition."

Although it may sound as if Garlits has little respect for west coast competition, this is not true. He feels that the west coast is unique in drag racing.

"Eastern cars may be as fast," he says, "but for every fast eastern car there are ten just as fast in the west. Everything is on a grand scale out there."

Whether the Houston run has setled the Garlits controversy or not, Don will continue to go as fast as he can as long as he can build cars. His current car (the basis is still the original machine he used for the first fast run at Brooksville) weighs slightly over 1500 pounds. The wheelbase is 106 inches. The frame Don made from 1930 Chevrolet parts.

The front axle, with a 55 inch tread, is made from an early Ford unit which has a two-leaf cross spring attached. Two tubular radius rods hold the axle in alignment.

The unusual wire wheels on the front of the car are homemade from Ford hubs and Borroni aluminum rims. 19 inches in diameter.

In the rear, Don has fitted a 1951 Olds rear axle unit which is rigidly mounted to the frame. The rear Olds assembly was narrowed to 40 inches, and the inside is strictly stock. With two gear ratios—3.42 to 1 for top speed and 3.63 to 1 (in combination with big slicks) for the amazing low e.t. runs.

He has fitted brakes to the rear only; they are from a '57 Olds and are fitted to 15 inch Halibrand magnesium wheels. Tires are 8.00x15 in the rear and German Metzeler motorcycle rubber up front.

The engine itself is bigger, better and bolder than the one he first used. He had been running a stock displacement engine, but with the addition of the blower he increased the displacement with a C-T Automotive %-inch, hard-chromed stroker kit with .030 oversize Forged True pistons.

However, this car is set up for only fuel competition. Garlits, who has been long rumored for a run at the NHRA Nationals, would need another car to compete in the gas-only racing classifications.

"I'd have to build a special car," he said recently, "and I'd like to. If I don't do it this year, I probably will next year."

As this article is written, Garlits' appearance at this year's nationals is doubtful, yet as you read this, at the close of the Nationals, it is possible he may have added some new records to his laurels with a new car which has been built just for the purpose.

Yet, wherever, Garlits runs he is always a man who is trying hard to go as fast as he can. Time, work and energy are secondary to the sheer joy of competing. He asks only one thing. "I don't want to be the controversial king of the drags," he says, "I just want to go fast."

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I would like to know what kind of carburetors and what venturi size would be best for my Weiand fourcarburetor intake manifold. I plan to use progressive throttle linkage. The engine will be in a 1932 Ford coupe. The car will be driven on the street.

I have a 1957 ignition distributor. Will this distributor work in the '56 block? Also, can I convert my 1957 solid lifters and use them in the '56 engine?

I am going to use a Cad side-shift transmission converted to floor-shift. What flywheel, pressure plate, clutch disc, throwout bearing, and throwout arm should I use? The transmission will be connected to a Pontiac 4.10 to I rear end.

- Dick Hunt Clinton, Iowa

Four carburetors for street use are too many carburetors but if you use Stromberg 97's, which have 31/32-inch venturis, and the progressive linkage you mention, the engine should perform well at all speeds. Install the progressive linkage so that the two secondary carburetors will begin to open when the throttle valves in the primaries are half open. It's possible to adjust the linkage so that the secondaries open when the primary throttles are one-third open. This would be too soon for street use.

The 1957 ignition distributor is interchangeable with the '56.

Your '57 solid lifters can be used in the '56 block if you will drill a new oil feed hole in each of them. The holes must be of the same diameter and in the same location as the hole in a '56 lifter. These things don't pose any problem if you'll use a '56 lifter as a pattern.

Leave the original hole in the '57 lifter as-is.

There are two ways of connecting your Cad transmission to the Chevy engine. One is by using an adaptor plate (available) between the transmission and the standard Chevy stick-shift transmission flywheel housing. The other method is the better of the two when the engine is to be installed in an early Ford chassis. It requires a Chevy to early Ford adapter plate, which boilts to the cylinder block, and an early Ford to Cadillac adapter housing that boilts to the plate. The advantage of this setup lies in the fact that the Ford to Cad housing is fitted with Ford clutch release linkage. There is no problem connecting this linkage to the clutch pedal in the car.

Recommended for the setup that uses the stock Chevy flywheel housing is a Corvette or special flywheel for an 11-inch clutch assembly. An 11-inch Chevy truck pressure plate assembly and a 11-inch Olds driven disc are used on the Corvette flywheel. If a special flywheel is used, the pressure plate assembly and driven disc recommended by the wheel's manufacturer should also be used. The Chevy throwout assembly is used with either of these clutches.

If the double-adapter setup is installed, use a stock Chevy flywheel and have it redrilled for a Ford 11-inch pressure plate assembly. Use an 11-inch Olds driven disc. The Ford throwout linkage in the adapter housing is then used.

The reason an Olds driven disc is recommended is because it has the correct diameter clutch shaft bore and the correct number of splines to match the clutch shaft in the Cad transmission. Actually, any driven disc that has the correct bore diameter, correct number of splines, an outside diameter that matches the pressure plate assembly and the correct friction surface thickness for the pressure plate can be used.

IT'S A GASSER

Dear Don:

I own a 1957 Thunderbird that I like very much except for one thing. When I am driving the car on the highway at any speed over 50 miles an hour the odor of gasoline gets so bad in the driver's compartment that it almost makes me sick. The odor is much worse when the windows are down than when the windows are closed. I've checked all the fuel lines and fittings from the tank to the carburetor for leaks but everything seems to be OK. The carburetor shows signs of normal seepage but it doesn't seem to be leaking as much gas as it would take to make such a strong odor in the car.

If I can't cure this problem, I'm going to get rid of the car. I'd much rather drive it than one of the current model boxcars Detroit is now building but I can't stand the stink much longer. Can you help me with this problem?

-Gene LaPoint Los Angeles, Calif.

I think I can help you, Gene. Being a Bird owner myself, I can appreciate how you feel about trading your car for a bulky "standard

Actually, your problem is easy to cure once the source of the fumes has been located. Gasoline sloshing ground in some makes of carburetors, particularly those used on most ford engines, will cause a gasoline odor to be noticed in the pasenger compartment but the periods during which such odors are noticeable are short and intermittent. The constant odor you are experiencing is coming from the gas tonk.

The filler neck for the car's gas tank is in a tunnel built into the rear of the body. Joints between the tunnel and the body were sealed with a compound of some sort when the body was built to make them airtight. However, as this sealing compound ages, it becomes brittle and quite often it will crack and destroy the seal. This makes it possible for air in the tunnel to flow into the body. The air is heavily charged with gasoline fumes because the gas tank is vented through the cap in the filler pipe. The reason the fumes are more noticeable at high speeds with one or more windows open is that the air rushing past the windows pulls air out of the car, creating a low pressure in the passenger compartment. Air in the gas tank filler pipe tunnel and other areas of normal pressure around the car try to flow into the body to overcome the low pressure condition. The gasoline fumes in the tunnel flow into the car along with

You can cure your problem by resealing the joints and whatever other holes might exist in the tunnel to make the tunnel airtight again. The sealing can be done with some type of soft sealing compound, with masking tape, or with one of the many brands of cloth tape now available.

SERVICE STATION GOOF

Dear Don:

I recently had my 59 Chevy serviced at the service station where I buy my gas. They lubed the car and changed the lubricant in its transmission and rear axle assembly. Now, something in the rear end makes a chattering noise when I turn a corner or drive through a turn. The car has a Positraction rear end.

Could the lube job have anything to do with the noise in the rear end?

-Jody Jackson Fort Worth, Texas

Your trouble is due to the lubricant in the rear axle assembly of your car. Positraction units require a special lubricant because of the way they function. Chevrolet lists the lubricants that should be used in their shop manuals, For 1959 Cars, they specify G.M. No. 3758790 or 3758791 lubricants. For 1958 cars, SAE 90 "SCL" lubricant should be used.

Take your car to a Chevrolet dealer and have the axle assembly drained and refilled with the correct lubricant. This should eliminate the noise.

Positraction rear axie assemblies are fitted with an identifying tag near their filler plug but, unfortunately, some service station operators are not familiar with the special lubricant requirements of the units,

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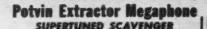
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LAS VEGAS NATIONAL CALLING

Las Vegas's famed Hacienda Hotel once again hosts the nation's quarter midget field comes Thanksgiving weekend for their second annual "Race Of The Champions". Race Chairman, John Dupree, of the National Quarter Midget Incorporation of San Fernando, California, officiating group National Quarter Mindger incorporation or San Fernando, California, officiating group for this fall championship event, announced the dates to be the 27th, 28th, 29th of November. The huge three day meet will get off in true Hacienda tradition early Friday morning, November 27th, with qualifying commencing at 9:00 AM, terminating that evening at 9:00 P.M. Saturday morning will also be devoted to qualifiers from 8:00 AM up to 11:00 AM. Rules governing qualifying are as follows: car and driver will be allowed on the track to qualify two times only. Driver can take one error each time on track (hit pylon, put hand up before green flag is given, etc.) but driver must remain on track and take his time or qualifying will be forfeited. Races will consist of Consolation Events (25 laps), Semi-Mains (30 laps), Main Events (40 laps). Starts will all be fastest cars to the pole and front rows. The first three winning cars Starts will all be fastest cars to the pole and front rows. The first three winning cars in each event will be immediately impounded and inspected by the NQMI technical committee. Race results will become official once the technical crew has inspected engines of event winners. Engine specifications are as follows for each racing classification. "STOCK" junior (4-8 yrs.) senior senior (9-15 yrs.). Fuel: gasoline only—to be furnished at meet. All cars shall have stock engines and all parts used shall be be furnished at meet. All cars snau nave stock engines and all parts used shall be stock as listed for the series and model being used. The following modifications will be permitted, 7.3 cubic inches. Special being used. The following modifications will be permitted, 7.3 cubic inches. Special oil dipper and gas tank. Any type carburation may be used. Governor, muffler, flywheel screen and starter pulley may be discarded. Advancing of starter-plate and any type spark plug. Exhaust port can be bored to remove thread only, but should not exceed .875 diameter (porting/relieving not allowed). Special valve guides, keepers and springs may be used, but stock diameter size valve heads must be retained. Battery ignition permitted. Any insert rod. Any type piston as long as it is flat head and does not increase compression ratio. Stock head and gasket must be used. One wheel drive only. "MODIFIED" junior (4-8 yrs) senior (9-15 yrs). Fuel: gasoline only—to be furnished at meet. 7.5 cubic inch displacement. All modifications allowed except the following: no alteration of stock cam or cam timing. One wheel drive only. "OPFN GAS" junior/senior inclusive ages

4-15 years. Fuel: gasoline only—to be furnished at meet. 8 cubic inch displacement. All other engine modifications allowed. Two wheel drive optional. "OPEN FUEL" jumor/senior conclusive ages 4-15 years. Fuel: Methanol or gasoline—to be furnished at meet. 8.3 cubic inches displacement. All modifications permitted. Two wheel drive optional. "OPEN GAS" and "OPEN FUEL" participants please note: it has been observed by the technical committee that the rear tread width of 32-inch is inadequate for faster cars on asphalt surfaced tracks. Therefore, we strongly advise it has been observed by the transcar committee that the rear tread width of 32-inch is inadequate for faster cars on asphalt surfaced tracks. Therefore, we strongly advise car owners to meet this minimum requirement. Any car that is lifting excessively will not be permitted to participate. Basic engine specifications for all classes is as follows: four cycle, two horsepower only. No overhead valve engines allowed. No stroking, fuel injection, or supercharging permitted. American manufactured engine only (foreign made engine must be approved by the technical committee). Direct drive only; no clutches. Only No. 218 and No. 405 cams allowed in "STOCK" and "MODIFIED" Continental engines. Flywheel must be ninety-five percent of the manufacturer's weight in all "STOCK" and "MODIFIED" classes. Gearbox is not considered a part of the engine in any division, therefore, any type gear reduction is permitted. Fuel additives of any type are not permitted in any division. Car specifications are restricted to those universally applied to all national events. Roll bars are mandatory as well as protective clothing for all drivers. Entry fee is three dollars and fifty cents to be paid when entering pit gate. Entry fee covers one car, one driver, two pit men. All entries and inquiries should be directed to the National Quarter Midget Incorporation of San Fernando, California. P.O. Box 549, San Fernando, California. Entries close November 21st. For your convenience, use entry blank below. See you in Vegas!

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Championships, record, held by driver

Car Number

Class: STOCK | MODIFIED |

GAS [] FUEL []

TRACK LISTINGS

chack, asphait, MACE DATE, alternate Sunday afternoons, and Friday nights, OUALIFYING, Sunday qualifying commences at 1.00 PM. Fri-day nights 6:00 PM, GENERAL RULES AND REG-ULATIONS, all cars must be equipped with the ly nights 6:00 PM. GENERAL ROLES AND RES-ATTONS: all cars must be equipped with the llowing safety features: approved roll bars, fety seat belt, bumper front and rear, posi-ie one wheel brake, outside ignition switch, fly extended metal firewall, cut-away belly n exposing underneath side of engine com-rtment. DRIVER approved crash helmet, ggles, leather or other protective clothing. IGINE SPECIFICATIONS: "Stock"—7.3 cubic

Camarillo Quarter Midget Racing Association, Inc. -

marillo Quarter Midget Racing Association, Inc. allowed — rod. gearbox, oil pump, ignition, carburetion, split-type keepers on valves as long as they remain stock size. "B Modified" — 7.5 cubic inches; all modifications allowed except for alteration of stock camshaft. "A Gas" — 8 cubic inches; all modifications permitted. "AA Fuel" — 8 cubic inches; all modifications allowed. No engine in any modification may be bored or stroked except for the over-bore allowance in "B Modified" "A Gas" and "AA Fuel" divisions for clean-up of cylinder, TRACK LOCATION: North Callageus off Highway 101, Camarillo, California.

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STREET

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SHOWS

COMING EVENTS

Boise, ideho—Sept. 13; Red & Custom Show, Boise Timing Assn.
Evensville, Ind. — Nov. 7-8; 2nd Annual Mid-States Autorano. Roberts Memicipal Stadium, spensored by Road Knights, Inc.
Des Molnes, Jewa — Oct. 24-25; 5th Annual International Mater Sparingfield, Marss. — Oct. 21-25; 2nd Annual Rodrights of Marsh. — Oct. 21-25; 2nd Annual Rod & Custom World's Fair Auto Show, Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds.
Kaness City, Me. — Auto Capade, Sept. 12-13; Exhibition Hall.

[Bethlags. M. 1 — New 20 90.

Hon Holl.

J. — Nov. 28-29; Auto Show presented by Squires, Colonial Pontioc.

Squires, Colonial Pontioc.

emsedx, N. J. — Oct. 10-11; 2nd Annual East Coast
Roundup, Armory, sponsored by Drivin' Desces.

ertlemd, Ore. — Oct. 30-31, Nov. 1; Portland Roadster Show, Pacific International Bidg., sponsored by Multhomah Hot Red Council.

eattle, Wash. — Oct. 2, 3, 4; Seattle Seefair Autorama; Civic Auditorium Lower Level.

heborygen, Wisc. — Soct. 19-20; Custom Car Show,
Armory, Kettle Moraine Meter Club.

NHRA DRAG SCHEDULES

ethan, Alc. — 9/20; 10/3, 4; 10/10, 11. Wireglass Timing Assn. elena, Ala. — 1st & 3rd Sun.; Birmingham Timing

Assn.
Finalow, Arlx. — 3rd Sun. Renegades
Hitle Rock, Ark. — 1st & 3rd, Mid-South Timing Assn.
orders, — 2nd Sun., Arkones Timing Assn.
oders, Calif. — 2nd Sun. Moders Clutchers, inc.
reville, Calif. — 2nd & 4th Sun. Oroville Clutchers
limdale, Calif. — 4th Sun. Astelope Volley Timing

Palmodele, Calif. — 4th Sun. Antelope Valley Timing Assn.
Bedding, Calif. — 3rd Sun. Shasto Roadsters, Inc.
Sam Luis Ohispo, Calif. — 3rd Sun. San Luis Ohispo.
Co. Timing Assn.
Sansta Marria, Calif. — 1st Sun. Dragons, Inc.
Visolia, Calif. — 9/27, Vapor Trailers, Inc.
Grand Junction, Colo. — 9/13, 27, 10/11, 25, 11/8, 22, 12/6, 20. Grand Junction hot Rod Council.
Jedesburg, Colo. — 9/10, Plotte Valley Custom Club.
Devis, Fia. — 2nd & 4th Sun. Broward Auto Club.
Kissimenee, Fia. — 1st Sun. Castral Fia., Timing Assn.
Micani, Fia. — 1st Sun. Castral Fia., Timing Assn.
Micani, Fia. — 1st 3rd Sun. So. Fia. Timing Assn.
Sebestiem, Fia. — 2nd & 4th Sun. Asphalt Angeles Het
Rod Club.
Venice, Hea. — 1st Sun. Vagabonds, Inc.
Oswege, Ill. — Ev. Sun. Oswego, Dragwery.
Indicanapolis, Ind. — 2nd & 4th Sun. Indianapolis,
Timing Assn.
Coffeyvitle, Koms. — 2nd & 4th Sun. Coffey Grinders
H. R. Club.
Parsons, Koms. — 3rd Sun. Queen City Pocers.
Hammond, La. — 4th Sun. Ponchafbuits Jaycese.
Opelouses, La. — 1st & 3rd Sun. Pelican State Auto
Club.
Seaford, Maine — 2nd & 4th Sun. New England Het

Nammond, Ld. – 4th Sun. Ponchafould Jaycess. Le., 1st & 3rd Sun. Policas Stale Auto Club.
Senford, Meine — 2nd & 4th Sen. New England Hot Red Council.
Orange, Mess. — 3rd Sun. New England Timing Asin.
Detroit, Mich. — Opening Aug. nights & weekands; Defroit Dragway
Minneopolis, Minn. — ev. Sun. Twin City Optimist Club Timing Asin.
Oreeville, Miss. — 1st & 3rd Sun. Delta Angeles; Greeville AFB.
Beigrade, Ment. — 2nd Sun. Bozeman Pacers.
Butte, Mont. — 3rd Sun. Silver Bow Timing Asin.
Greed Island, Neb. — 9/12, 13; 10/11. Grand Island Jayces Timing Asin.
Lincoln, Neb. — 9/6, 20; 10/4, 18; 11/1, 15, 29.
Shoundo Auto Club.
Scottabluff, Neb. — 10/4; 11/4. Nils Valley Timing Asin.

Scottabloff, Neb. — 10/e; 11/e.

Assn.

Carsen City, Nev. — 3rd Sun. Silver State Timing Assn.
Syracuse, N.Y. — ev. Sun. Empire State Timing Asen.
Hobbs, N.M. — 1st Sun. Charlofeser Auto Club,
Resewell, N.M. — 2nd Sun. Dusters Auto Club,
Wollier AFB.

Elizabeth City, N.C. — 2nd & 4th, Eastern Caroline
Drivers Assn.
Oklahoems City, Okla. — Ev. Sun. Okla. City Drug
Sirip.

Oklehoms City, Unite. — 1st & 3rd Sun. Yulsa Timing Asan.
Yulsa, Oklin. — 1st & 3rd Sun. Yulsa Timing Asan.
Aurera, Ore. — 1st & 3rd Sun. Multnomah Hot Rod
Council & Northwest Timing Asan.
The Dalles, Ore. — 9/20; Mid-Columbia Timing Asan.
Scappeoce, Ore. — Columbia Timing Asan.
York, Pa. — 7/12 & ev. other Sus. South Penn. Hot
Rod Council.
Cherlesteven, R.I. — 1st Sun. So. New England Timing
Asan.

Assn.
Halls, Tean. — 4th Sun. Memphis Rodders, Inc.
Abernathy, Texas — 4th Sun. Tri-City Drog Assn.
Coddo Mills, Texas — 1st Sun. North Texas Timing

Marfa, Texas — 3rd Sun. Marfa-Alpine Drag Strip New Braumfels, Texas — 3rd Sun. Central Texas Rocing

Asn.

Asn.

Wichite Fellis, Texns — 2nd Sun. Red River Timing Asso.

Wichite Fellis, Texns — 2nd Sun. Red River Timing Asso.

Petersburg, Va. — ev. Sat. Eustern Drogwey, Inc.

Recensite, Va. — 1st & 3rd Sen. Recensite Drogsters, Inc.

Kent, Wesh. — epen Aug. & ev. chter Sen. Pacific

Motor Receway, King Co. Youth Auto Council.

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PERSONAL PONTIAC

Dear George:

I am customizing a '57 Pontiac and I would like to know if you have any ideas in respects to the grille and taillights?

- Tudd Christopherson Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

For your particular car, Tudd, I can't think of any type of grille that could give more at a custom appearance and at the same time lend a wider look to the front than a tubular bar grille. The only problem that you'll run into is that there are none manufactured for the '57 Pontiac. To solve this, you can do one of two things: make your own of tube steel and angle braces, or cut and fit an assembly made for another car. I would suggest, if you follow the second alternative, that you measure the grille cavity on your Pontiac and then try to find a grille that will fit within this measurement best. Then, all you'll be warried about is slight trimming.

I imagine that you want to change the tail-lights to achieve a different appearance. If this is the case, then there is a substitution that is a gem for '57 Pontiacs, but is not at all common. I'm referring to the '59 Nash Ambassodore lenses. There will be little work involved in installing them in the Pontiac housings, and for an added personal touch I would attach two small chromed bullets to the twin tube sections.

BUICK-FIED BEAUTY

Dear George:

For quite sometime, I have been searching for a taillight switch and grille substitution for my '57 Ford. I don't want to build a grille or lens unit, I just want to find some type of assemblies that would look sharp and not be too common. Do you have any suggestions?

- Jim Foley, Manchester, N.H.

Call an end to your search, Jim. I think you'll be pleased with the results you'll have by replacing the Ford taillights with '59 Buick units. The streamlined leases and housings will fit without much work involved and really comes an. For added appeal, why not french the units? Be sure, however, that you use correct welding and leading procedures in this operation.

ing procedures in this operation.

Drop down a year to the '58 Buick checkered grille for your Ford. True, these switches have been seen before, but for ease of installation,

you can't best it. Attach the grille from the front. You'll need to do a little work in mounting. You might check the April '39 issue of Car Craft Magazine for a complete how-to-do-it story on this type of installation.

SAME FOR BOTH

Dear George:

I would like to install either the '56 Buick or the '56 Chrysler taillight lens in my '56 Chevy. Which of the two should I use? They both appeal to me, so my choice will be in the amount of work required to put them in.

- Dan Leward, Chicago, Ill.

You're going to have to make some sort of a choice, Dan. To install either one of these lenses, you'll do the same amount of work. The simplest and easiest method is to remove your old lenses and cut and fit an aluminum backing for the taillight housing. Then, you can add either the Chrysler or the Buick lenses. Two notes of insertion: you'll need to remove the gas filler pipe from the left side and install it in the trunk. Also, you might find that the Buick lenses are more common in the '56 Chev than are the Chrysler units. Therefore, you might want to install the Chrysler lenses rather than the Buick units.

PLYMOUTH PROCEDURE

Dear George:

I am in the process of customizing my '57 Plymouth. Right now, I am stymied as to which quad headlight assembly I should use and whether or not to install '57 Corvette taillight bases with '59 Cadillac lenses in place of the stock lights. What should I do?

James Neal,Jacksonville, Florida

The first thing you should do is to run right down to your local Plymouth agency and pick up a set of '58 Plymouth quad headlight assemblies. You'll find that these will quickly and easily replace your '57 headlights and parking lights. It's a simple matter of botting them on.

I don't think the Corvette/Cadillac idea is your best bet. I would suggest you try making a flat plastic backing that will replace your present taillight lenses. This will look sharp alone, but if you like the Cad lenses, then install these to the backing. This will give you a lot better appearance, and a lot less trouble in construction and installation.

PLYMOUTH ALA CHEVY

Dear George:

I have a '58 Plymouth two-door hardtop and I would like to know if the '59 Chevrolet taillights will fit in the taillight fin cavity? If they won't, do you have any other suggestions?

The only other thing that bugs me is the front end, particularly the bumper and grille. What can I do to change these as I would like to have straight, flowing lines?

- Ray Rauch, Lexington, S. Carolina

The '5P Chevy taillights can be made to fit your fin opening, Ray. Actually, it's a matter of triamsing the cavity to fit the lenses. This is not a common switch, so I think you'll have a real winner it you make this substitution. If you would rather keep the stock fenses, you might try plastic knobs on your present units. Get some '4" white plastic and cut it into vertical half-round sections. Use some plastic cement and ottach them to the face of your lenses.

About the best substitute for your stock grille would be a handmade assembly featuring a perforated or mesh screen for background with drawer knobs or pulls mounted. You must cut and trim the metal screen to fit your cavity; make new brackets of angle iron. When you have the hardware evenly spaced on the screen, simply bolt them on as you would to the drawer ardoor for which they were ariginally designed. There is no simple and easy bumper that can be adapted to your Plymouth. If you can handle it, and don't mind the work involved, your best bet is to alter the front and rear bumpers from a '59 Chev. These will give the straight lines that you desire.

ONE-PIECE HOOD

Dear George:

I have two problems I would like answered. I own and am customizing a '48 Mercury. I am doing the usual dechroming, lowering, etc., but I am definitely stuck for a grille replacement. Are there any manufactured for this model Merc?

My second problem concerns the hood. The main trouble with the stock unit is that it hapens to be in two pieces. I don't want this, I want a one-piece hood, but I don't know which (if any) to use. Is there a one-piece hood I can use?

- Howard Eakin, Vancouver, Canada

Since you want a manufactured grille for your Mercury, I would suggest you contact. Detroit Grille Co., 258 East Vernor, Detroit I, Michigan. They market a very attractive grille that will replace your stock assembly. For your hood replacement, try a '41 Mercury hood. You should be able to find one that is in good shape at a wrecking yard. You'll be faced with body work in the form of trimming and fitting. You'll also have to make a change in the hinge springs for a perfect fit. This won't entail too much work on your part, however.

OLDS IDEAS

Dear George:

I have just finished reading your column in the August '59 issue of Car Craft and am wondering if you could give me some information on my '54 Oldsmobile 88. I would like to put '56 Packard taillights in, but do you think this would be good for the Olds? I know what kind of tail-

lights I want, but I haven't the faintest idea as to what I should use for a grille. I would like something that won't cost too much money, time, or work. Do you have any suggestions?

- Harry Hartman, Jacksonville, Florida

Since you seem to be in favor of the Packard taillights, my only advice is to go ahead and use them. They look very nice when they are frenched-in. If you want another light suggestion I would say you might be interested in the '55 Chrysler assembly. This is another neat installation for the '54 Oldsmobiles. You'll do the same work for both.

As for your grille, you can easily install the '54 Chevrolet grille assembly in the Olds cavity. You can use this in three different ways: either the straight bar with no teeth (they can be removed easily), or the stock unit as it comes, or add a few extra grille teeth on the center bar. You can find the necessary parts at your local Chev dealer. Any one of these three ideas will look sharp. If you really want to be different, and I see by your letter that you don't wa to spend much time or money, you might build a special grille with mesh screen filling the cavity with drawer pulls or knobs spaced evenly on it. You might also investigate a checkeredtype grille constructed of 1" by 1/4" plastic strips. This is the latest fad.

THE WHOLE WORKS

Dear George:

I will shortly be customizing my 54 Mercury. But, before I start I would like your advice on a few items.

On the front end, I would like to replace the grille and bumpers. What should I substitute? Secondly, will '56 or '57 Ford side trim attach to the sides of the Merc? Thirdly, how can I adapt a '58 Chev Impala wheel to my steering shaft? And finally, what do you think of scooped quarter panels? If you have other suggestions they would be most helpful.

J. Laorenze,N. Andover, Mass.

Because of the heavy appearance of your stock '54 Mercury bumpers, they usually seem to be the first things to go when a customizer begins work. There have been many variations on substitutions, but I have found that one of the best is the '55 Pontiac split bumper bar combination. They seem to be naturals for the '54' Merc and don't give a heavy look to the front. Then, you can french-in the stock grille shell using U-shaped tubing. To fill this nowsmooth grille cavity, you can choose from either a mesh screen grille with chrome bullets or plastic half-sections of bullets. You might also find that a simple tubular grille would look nice. Any one of these three ideas would lend themselves well to the front end.

For side trim, It's all a motter of personal choice. Both the '56 and the '57 Ford pieces can be cut to fit the side contours of the Merc. It's about the same amount of work for either one, depending of course, on where (high, low, forward, rear) you desire to place the trim.

Apparently everyone is going for the '58 impola steering wheel. To attach this distinctive

wheel to your car, or on any other vehicle for that matter, you'll have to take it to a machine shop and have it machined to match the design of your Merc's shaft. Then, simply attach it in the standard manner.

Very few cars possess a set of quarter panels that are almost begging to be scooped as does your Merc. This is also one of the first modifications performed on this model and is often considered among the best. Definitely scoop those panels. Use ¾" round rod for smooth contours around the opening. You might like the Merc teeth, already on the side panels, protruding from the openings.

A final suggestion is to install a '54 Cadillac bumper on the rear. They can be made to fit with some work involved, mainly in sectioning to fit, but the final appearance is well worth the time and work.

ROLLED PANS

Dear George:

For some time I have been contemplating rolling the rear pan on my '57 Ford. It looks like it should be fairly easy, but is it?

I know this was a very popular feature on the early roadsters, but there seems to be a lag in the late model cars. Is this because it is too difficult a job?

- Warren Barker San Diego, Calif.

Quite a few customizers have not realized that rolled pans are relatively easy on the later model cars. Unfortunately, they have not reached the popularity with the late model cars as with the old street roadsters.

You are in luck, Warren, as this particular issue contains a complete story on rolling the rear pan on a late model car. If you can't wait, turn quickly turn to page 28 for the full information on rolled pans.

IMPERIAL TAILLIGHTS

Dear George:

My car is a '58 Pontiac and I would like to change the over-all appearance of the taillights. I would like to know if I can substitute the '56 Oldsmobile taillight lens for that of the Pontiac. There are only two things which at this time are hampering me: first, will they fit? If they don't fit, easily, how much would it cost to have it re-worked to fit? I don't want to spend much money for this alteration, so if it is expensive, give the word and I'll look around for something else. -Bill Varraber, Toledo, Ohio

One of the best alterations you could choose is fairly simple and costs far less than what you would pay to try to adapt your original idea. I would suggest you visit your local imperial dealer and buy only the taillight lenses that were made for the '57 Imperial. These are extremely neat looking lenses and will make a fine addition to your Pontiac. Don't bother to remove your present lenses. Install the Imperial units directly to the stock lenses. This will give an individualistic look, plus save you some of the green stuff.



RECORD 1/4 Mile

GARLITS EXPLODES TO NEW MARK AT BROOKSVILLE, FLA.

They say that records are made only to be broken, and Ben Garlits, the Tampa Terror, is such a staunch believer in this adage that racing officials now enter his records in pencil — for easy erasura. Following his big triumph in the final-run of the U.S. Fuel-Gas Chempionships at Lodi, Calif., Don predicted he might hit 190 mph before too long. Many scoffed and dismissed this as 'headline-seeking' talk; but after this latest record shattering run a lot of opinions have been revised. Garlits attributes much of his new found power to the new, sensational Ishy, Gilmer beltdriven Ferced Induction Kit and, of course, the always dependable power of the Ishy 5 Cycle Cam and Engineered Kit.

THE RECORD THAT WAS NEVER REPORTED - THE LODI MISCUE

A new world record was actually established at Lod during the 2nd run of the U.S. Fuel-Cas meet . . . but was never released. Here are details. After trying several fuel combinations Carifts settled on a 50% mixture and then made one of his monumental runs. Unbelleving officials looked twice and gasped . . and then asked for an impartial observer. Before he got there, however, they asked the operator at the Crondex clocks to push the 'SET' button. Instead he mis-

takeniy pushed the 'RESET' button. According to Strip Manager, Bob Cress, 3 officials witnessed the time but because of the unfortunate mistake realized that any official sanction might be construed as 'fixed'. Discreet confidence, therefore, was maintained until Garlits vindicated a future announcement of this phenomenal run.

GOOD NEWS FOR DRAGSTERS WITH RESTRICTED BUDGETS

Even though your working capital is stretched rather thin you'll soon know indicate that they're capable of be what it's like to hit the magic 180 mph class. isky Engineers are completing final tests on grinds for the economical early, 331 cu. in. Chrysters ("51-"54), supercharged. These 'salvage-type' engines that can be picked up for a song

indicate that they're capable of better than 180 mph on fuel and 160 mph or Our recent poil on Fermula, U.S.A. Indicated opinion evenly divided on limitations of engines. However, based on readers' comments we predict strip operators will eventually organize separate classes for the smaller-min

FLASH:

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At Kingsburg, Calif. Jack Williams driving his Chrysler powered, Isky equipped Bel-mont hull (Golden Commode) not only became the second boat in history to reach 110 M.P.H. in ½ mile, but did it twice in the same day, with one run good for a new world's record of 110.77 M.P.H. We at ISKENDERIAN are doubly proud since the former record as well as the new record were both set using ISKENDERIAN CAMS.



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